

Landmarks Preservation Board

Seattle Historic Building Data Sheet

1. Name (common or present and/or historic) Ward House

2. Street and Number 1423 Boren Avenue Block 46 Lot 7 Year Built 1882

3. Present Owner Dr. & Mrs. M. J. Buckley Present Use vacant

4. Interim Owner(s) many Interim Use(s) hotel

5. Original Owner George Ward Original Use residence

6. Architect _____ Builder _____

7. Assessed Value: Building _____ Land _____ Assessors File No. _____

8. Classification:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Open to Public:
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Object		in progress	Hours _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		<input type="checkbox"/> Threatened by demolition	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	

9. Neighborhood Information:

A. Compatibility With Neighborhood

Structure Yes _____ No x

Use Yes x No _____

B. Importance to Neighborhood

Great _____

Moderate x

Minor _____

C. Architecturally Strong Neighborhood

Comments Originally a residential neighborhood of single family homes, these have all been replaced by large apartment buildings and some commercial structures. Construction of the freeway has opened views to the north.

10. Special Research Sources (Be Specific, list name or item and where found)

King County Assessor's Office, Museum of History and Industry.

Seattle Sunday Times, May 8, 1966; "A Volume of Memoirs and Genealogy"

Lewis Publishing Co., 1913; Seattle Public Library.

11. Cross Street Reference



12. Photos Attached & Photographer _____

13. Physical Description

A. Style of Architecture

modified Italianate

B. Construction Material

wood frame

C. No. of Stories

2 + tower

D. Condition

Excellent _____

Good _____

Fair _____

Poor X

E. Exterior Deseccration of Original Design

None or little _____

Moderate amount X

Considerable _____

F. Architectural worth at Example of Its Style

Exceptional _____

Excellent X

Good _____

Fair _____

Poor _____

G. Notable Features: (Be specific, i.e., detailing, craftsmanship, proportions, materials, colors, interior, etc. Refer to Guidelines of Landmarks Preservation Board).

The Ward House displays elements of design and detailing of the Italianate style that became popular during the Victorian era. The low-pitched roofs, use of numerous and decorative eave brackets, and decorative window and door casings are typical of the Italianate style. These elements were mass produced commercially and sold through catalogs to those who wished to embellish their homes with such decorative elements. The tower, intricate plan, bay windows, decorative shingle work and use of decorative brackets and casings marked the beginning of the Victorian era in Seattle. Although modest, this is the last house of this villa form extant in Seattle.

14. Significance

A. Major Significance

- Historical
- Architectural
- Engineering
- Cultural
- Geographical
- Archaeological

B. Level of Significance

- National
- State
- Community

C. Statement of Significance (Be specific, history, personages, events, etc.)

Numbers apply to the Landmark Ordinance criteria Section 6.
 Numbers not listed do not significantly apply to the subject nomination.

C(1).

- (1) Built by Mr. & Mrs. George W. Ward in 1882 at the southwest intersection of Boren and Union Street.

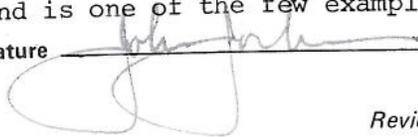
In approximately 1905 the property was sold to a hotel development and the house was turned 90° east so that the front, originally facing north, now faced east, to make more space available for a new hotel (today called the Crest Hotel). The house was made part of the hotel to accommodate eight more boarders during the period when the 1905 Alaskan Yukon Expedition was in full swing.

George Ward was born March 23, 1838, in Catlaraugres County, New York. He was of English and Irish descent. Ward's family moved to a farm 16 miles south of Seattle with his wife and two children. Two and a half years later they moved to 9th and Virginia where his children would be closer to school. He used his carpentry talents for his first years in Seattle by contracting, building and manufacturing sashes and doors. In 1883 Ward bought the land between Boren and Union for his house from the heirs of Sarah A. Bell, widow of the Seattle founder. At this time Ward headed the Llewellyn and Ward Co., which consisted of real estate, insurance and loan business. Mr. Ward held many positions in the community. He was president of the Washington State Mutual Accident Association, deacon for the Baptist Bhurch, and a justice of the peace for many years.

George Ward was considered a leading man of the Pacific Northwest. (Men of the Pacific Coast, 1902-1903, the Pacific Art Co., San Francisco, page 477). "The life of George Ward is closely identified with the history of Seattle, which has been his home for years...He has been crowned with a degree of success which numbers him among the substantial residents of his adopted city."

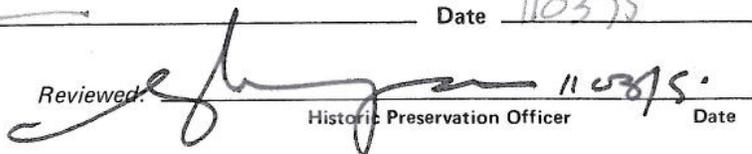
- (4) This house represents a fine example of modified Italianate of early Seattle and is one of the few examples left in the Seattle area. (over)

Surveyor Signature



Date 110375

Reviewed



Historic Preservation Officer

Date

The ornamental wood on the exterior of the building was machine produced and ordered through a catalog. As such, this then marks the beginning of modern industrialized building methods.

WARD HOUSE - HISTORY

The Ward House was built in 1882 centered on green lawn of the half block from Boren to Union Street. George and Louise Ward built their house during a prosperous period, but ten years later they had to sell the house due to the financial crash of 1893. Approximately, in 1905 the property was sold to a hotel development and the house was turned 90 degrees west from its original view north to make more available space for a new hotel (today called The Crest Hotel). The house was made part of the hotel to accommodate eight more boarders during the period when the 1905 Alaskan-Yukon Expedition was in full swing.

George V. Ward was born March 23, 1838 in Catlaraugus County, New York. He was of English and Irish descent. Ward's family moved to Illinois in 1854 where he was educated and married. In 1871 George Ward moved to a farm 16 miles south of Seattle with his wife and two children. Two and a half years later they moved to 9th and Virginia where his children would be closer to school. He used his carpentry talents for his first years in Seattle by contracting, building, and manufacturing sashes and doors. In 1883 Ward bought the land between Boren and Union for his house from the heirs of Sarah A. Bell, widow of Seattle founder. At this time Ward headed the Llewellyn and Ward Company, which did business in real estate, insurance and loans. Ward was the president of Washington State Mutual Accident Association, was deacon for the Baptist Church for forty years, and the justice of the peace for a number of years.

Ward was considered a leading man of the Pacific Northwest. (Men of the Pacific Coast 1902-1903, the Pacific Art Company, San Francisco, page 477). The life of George Ward is closely identified with the history of Seattle, which has been his home for years. "He... has been crowned with a degree of success which numbers him among the substantial residence of his adopted City". (From a volume of Memoirs and Genealogy of Representative Citizens of the City of Seattle and the County of King, Washington, The Lewis Publishing Company, New York and Chicago, 1903, page 286).