

extended south to Union Avenue, the lower part of this area was known as "Swantown." John Swan, a Scotsman, had met Edmund Sylvester in the California goldfields and returned to Olympia with him aboard the brig *Orbit* in 1850. Together with Sylvester, Swan helped plat the town of Olympia. Swan then claimed 320 adjacent acres running east across the tideflats from Cherry Street. The small settlement on the east side of the tideflats sprang up after the Indian War of 1855 and construction of the first wooden bridge on 4th Avenue across the "Swantown Slough" began around 1856.

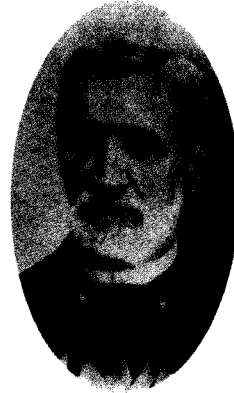
William and Sarah Ayers filed the next claim to the east, which ran from Swan's eastern boundary (Boundary Street) up the hill to Fairview; James C. and Sarah Head claimed the land from Fairview to the Boulevard Road. These properties were platted into Olympia in the mid-1800s. The neighborhood is now bounded on the south by Interstate 5, which runs up the ravine occupied by Indian Creek, known to old-time residents as "Red Crick."

Primarily an area of residences, many with orchards and a few farm animals, the Eastside at one time also had a sawmill, a brickyard, and a water-powered millwork and cabinet shop. It had, and still has, small businesses, churches, and schools.

From 1909-1912, spoil from dredging Olympia's harbor completed the sporadic filling of the Swantown Slough, and the Eastside was now fully connected to the downtown street grid. From the 1890s to the 1930s the trolley line ran along 4th Avenue to downtown, and on to South Olympia, Tumwater, and the Westside.

Older Eastside residences are a side-by-side mix of "workingmen's cottages," middle-class bungalows, and a few notable Victorian and turn-of-the-century homes. These often reflect the optimism of the prosperous times of the late 1880s, buoyed by Washington's 1889 Statehood and Olympia's confirmation as the State Capital in 1889. These dreams soon turned to ashes for many, however, as the worldwide financial "Panic of '93" resulted in mortgage foreclosures on most of these "dream homes."

Two monumental public buildings also grace the Eastside, and architect Joseph Wohleb, a 1911 arrival from California, designed them both. The "Old Washington School" (actually the second of three Olympia schools named for the first President) and the Olympia Armory are on opposite corners of Legion Way and Eastside Street.



John Swan

Besides developing land, Swan started a thriving nursery business that brought orchard stock and decorative plants for the new town on voyages around Cape Horn from the East Coast. With none of the gardening choices available today, thrifty Eastsiders propagated and exchanged plants, and more than a few of the neighborhood's notable orchard and ornamental trees and hardy perennials are descendants of John Swan's imported nursery stock. Swan served as a County Commissioner and was active in the Odd Fellows Lodge, helping to found the fraternity's home at Walla Walla. A lifelong bachelor, he died there in 1904 at age 81. Photograph from the Washington State Capital Museum, a division of the Washington State Historical Society.

1 **William G. White House, 1431 11th Avenue East, 1893*#** - This high-style Victorian is an exuberant blend of Queen Anne and Eastlake architectural styles. Typical is the complex roofline and "gingerbread" decorative elements. Wooden shingles cover the original horizontal "drop" siding, which can still be seen on many other homes in the neighborhood. Mr. White, a builder, constructed this home for himself and his wife, Amanda Maris White, on a large corner lot when the neighborhood was thought to be an "up and coming" location. Ironically for a builder, Mr. White never completed the upstairs interior of this house. Their mortgage was foreclosed following the "Panic of '93," which caused real estate values to collapse. The Whites afterwards lived in many places on the Eastside, none so grand as this Victorian confection. The house was once used for apartments and even housed a small grocery! It is nearly restored to its original glory.

2 **Lybarger House, 1056 Boundary Street SE, ca. 1887***- Pennsylvania native John Gordon Lybarger and his wife, Lura Ellen Mix, daughter of a pioneer Thurston County family, bought this property in Ayers' Addition from Daniel R. Bigelow in 1885, adding nearly the whole southern half of the block to their land in 1888. Mr. Lybarger was a logger and part-time carpenter and grading contractor and real estate investor. The house was built by 1887. Striving to make his name in the community, Mr. Lybarger was also a volunteer fireman, an Odd Fellow, a Republican county committeeman and a city councilman for a short time. But in 1890, legal and financial troubles ended these ambitions, and the 1893 depression was the final blow. The Lybargers returned their home to the mortgage holder in 1900 and moved to the Westside, where he worked for a timber company and later owned, and lived above, the Westside Grocery on North Rogers Street. Mrs. Lybarger died in 1908; after a second marriage, Mr. Lybarger died in 1924. They had nine children. The large cedars, the redwood, and the grand rhododendrons were planted in the 1930s by Myrtle Michael. After years of neglect, the house was rescued and renovated in the 1970s and '80s. Another city councilmember and his wife bought this house 100 years after the Lybargers built it.

3 **Yeager House, 1409 East 10th Avenue, ca. 1890***- This Queen Anne style house has Eastlake decorative elements evident in the gable ends. It was originally part of the Yeager homestead which was sold by the family in the later part of the 19th Century. William Yeager was a county sheriff and city councilman. His wife, Ida Mossman Yeager, was the daughter of Olympia pioneers Isaac and Nellie Jackson Mossman. Her father was Territorial Law librarian. Ida and William married in 1881.

4 **Patnude House, 1239 Eighth Avenue, ca. 1893*@**- Built by Charles and Delia (La Monde) Patnude in 1893, this house is a combination of roof forms and exterior ornamentation. It is notable for its scalloped moldings under boxed eaves, gables and the porch roof. Originally, the house stood on a double lot. Charles and Delia Patnude, natives of upstate New

York near Quebec, came to Olympia from Wisconsin in the 1880's. Charles, who owned one of the first incorporated businesses in Olympia, was one of the city's earliest and most outstanding contractors. He was a bricklayer, plasterer and mason. He constructed or helped to construct many of Olympia's major public buildings, including the Old State Capitol, Providence Academy and the Thurston County Courthouse. The Patnudes, who had 13 children, only lived in the house for two years because it was one of many homes which were foreclosed in 1895 by the Oregon Mortgage Company. Seven Patnude sons joined to form Olympia's first Mason's Union.



Patnude Family -Charles and Delia (LaMonde) Patnude Family, Back Row: Joe, Rosa, Frank, George, May, Elsie, Charles Jr. Front Row: Edna, Father Charles, Lydia, Philip, Ella, Carl and Mother Delia. Photograph courtesy of the Patnude Family.

5 **Weeping Cherry (Prunus subhirtella) Southwest Corner 8th and Eastside Street-** This tree, recognized as a City of Olympia Landmark Tree, was planted in 1924 near their corner home by the Johnson Family. The Max J. Leitgeb family lived here and took care of the tree for many years. Now that an office building occupies the site, Larry Freshley continues to maintain the tree. Note the bronze plaque, a touching tribute to Mr. Leitgeb from his children.

6 **Old Washington School, now Esther Knox Administration Building, 1113 East Legion Way, ca. 1925-** Replacing a nearby 1890s school of the same name, this was one of several schools designed by Joseph Wohleb for the Olympia School District in

(360) 753-1480. The Armory site was the location of the 1890s era Washington School, which faced west onto Quince Street.

8 Henry Homesite/Garry Oak, Parking Lot, United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE-

This Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*), an Olympia Landmark Tree, is said to have been planted by D.S.B. Henry. Henry came over the Oregon Trail in 1852 at age 10. In 1862-63 his family came to Olympia. His father, Dr. Anson Henry, was Surveyor General of Washington. Dudley Henry was a civil engineer who followed the surveying profession as both city and county engineer. He and his wife Fannie Talcott owned a home at this location. The members of the United Methodist Church have protected the tree since the construction of the church.

9 War Memorial Trees, Legion Way*-

Originally 6th Street, Legion Way was named in 1927 when the American Legion Hall was dedicated downtown. These trees were planted as part of a beautification project sponsored by the American Legion. Businesses and civic groups also contributed to the fund to plant the trees. On Armistice Day, November 11, 1928, a dedication and planting ceremony was held. Sweet Gum trees were planted in memory of World War I dead. Honored were Ira L. Cater and Alfred William Leach, both Olympia natives who died in the war in 1918. (The Veterans of Foreign Wars chapter in Olympia is named for Cater and the American Legion Post for Leach.) The corners at Eastside and Legion Way had oak trees planted in memory of the Spanish-American and Civil War dead.

10 European White Birch (*Betula pendula*) 1312 7th Avenue SE-

This Olympia Landmark Tree is a specimen of the type and is approximately 70 years old. Charles and Lera Peterson built their house ca. 1928 and probably planted the tree at that time.

11 First Free Methodist Church, 1431 East Legion Way, ca. 1913, 1933*-

The Free Methodist Congregation originated in Olympia in 1912 and a small church was built at this location. The present

structure is the result of extensive remodeling done of the earlier church by members of the congregation during the Depression years. The group moved to a new facility in 1957.

12 Glidden Houses, 523, 515, and 503 South Central, ca. 1924-

These houses were among several built by Arno Glidden, South Bay native and lumberman in this area of Olympia. Glidden was Superintendent of the McCleary Door Factory. He originally rented the houses to a variety of tenants. They are simple frame houses which have decorative windows, porches and rooflines typical of homes of the period. They have lost some historic features over time, but retain their overall historic appearance.

13 Sanderson House, 419 South Central, ca. 1914*-

This is a good example of the Craftsman style house built on a double lot. Also on the property is a period garage. A native of Nova Scotia, John Sanderson came to Olympia in 1888 and married Annie Webb in 1889. They lived in the house from the time it was built. He was a real estate agent. This was the second house in the Robinson Subdivision, built for \$700 on a \$120 lot.

14 Manier House, 1121 East 5th, ca. 1909*-

The Manier House is a distinctive example of the American Foursquare style. It was built in 1909 by Sarah and Emery Williamson, a local realtor, and purchased in 1915 for \$2,500 by W.W. Manier. Manier came to Olympia from Missouri before the turn of the century. In 1906, after graduating from the University of Washington School of Law, he began a law practice in Olympia with George Bigelow. He was involved in many Olympia business, civic and fraternal organizations. His wife, Gertrude Davis Manier was also well-known in civic and social circles.

15 Site of Brickyard- 4th and Eastside Streets-

Besides creating the deep harbors and rich fisheries of Puget Sound, the Ice Age glaciers of 10,000 years ago exposed extensive clay beds along Olympia's shores. The bricks from this yard made up foundations and chimneys for many Olympia homes, and the walls of most of the substantive business and public buildings

in the town. William Burchett, with his partner Christopher Baker, operated the yard in the years after the turn of the century, until about 1913.



Early Olympia Brickyard- 4th and Eastside Streets, Photograph from the Washington State Capital Museum, a division of the Washington State Historical Society.

- * = Listed on the Olympia Heritage Register.
- @ = Listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- # = Listed on the Washington State Register of Historic Places.

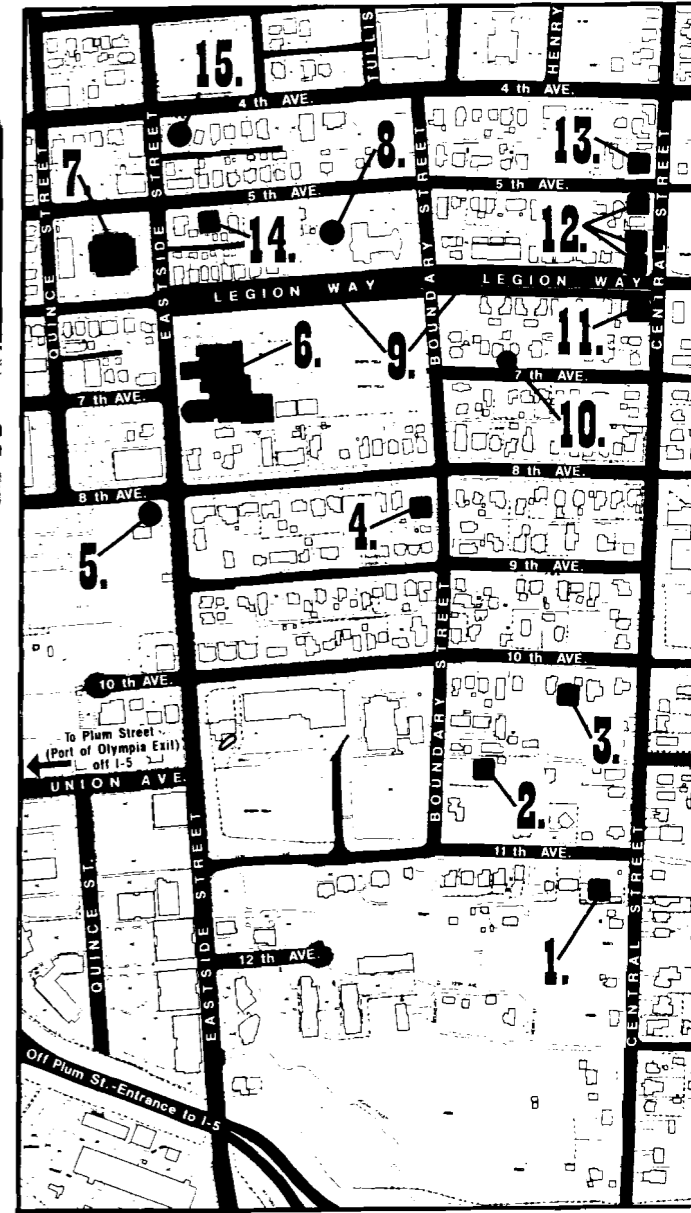
This brochure has been financed in part with funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior administered by the Washington State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development (DCTED), Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) and the City of Olympia. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, DCTED, or OAHP. This program received Federal funds from the National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in departmental Federally Assisted Programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.



City of OLYMPIA

For more information contact the City of Olympia at 753-8031
Copyright-City of Olympia and Olympia Heritage Commission 1996
Printed on Recycled Paper
Graphic Design by Ken Brown

Eastside Neighborhood Map Showing 15 Tour Sites



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. William G. White House | 9. War Memorial Trees |
| 2. Lybarger House | 10. European White Birch |
| 3. Yeager House | 11. First Free Methodist Church |
| 4. Patnude House | 12. Glidden Houses |
| 5. Weeping Cherry Tree | 13. Sanderson House |
| 6. Old Washington School | 14. Manier House |
| 7. Olympia Armory | 15. Site of Brickyard |
| 8. Henry Homesite/Garry Oak | |