BEHIND THE SCENES:

INVESTIGATING PROCESSES SHAPING WILLAMETTE VALLEY

ARCHITECTURE 1840-1865

WITH A CASE STUDY IN BROWNSVILLE

by

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THESIS ABSTRACT

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Title: Behind the Scenes: Investigating Processes Shaping Willamette Valley
     Architecture 1840-1865 With a Case Study in Brownsville

This thesis studies the diffusion of architectural types and the rise of regionally distinct typologies in the Willamette Valley's settlement period (1840-1865) in Oregon. Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to analyze the dispersion of architectural types within the Willamette Valley revealed trends amongst the extant settlement architecture samples. Brownsville, Oregon, was identified to have a locally-specific architectural subtype, the closer study of which enabled deeper investigation of the development of architectural landscapes during the Willamette Valley's settlement period. Field and archival research revealed that the appearance of an architectural subtype, at least in Brownsville, was not directly connected to a shared provenance of settlers but rather came about through a number of regionally-specific circumstances, especially an active local carpenter community.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Statement of Problem and Rationale for the Study

The diffusion of architectural types and rise of regionally distinct typologies is a topic that has been studied across the United States. Scholars like Hubert Wilhelm have traced building types and techniques from the Eastern seaboard to the Midwest. Just as the Pennsylvania-Dutch barn type was carried from Pennsylvania into Ohio, following the migration of those who used that barn type, so too did architectural types move west to the Oregon Territory with the Oregon pioneers in the middle of the 19th century.[1] An extreme example, and perhaps an outlier, is Aurora, Oregon. Aurora strongly reflects the common geographic origins of its founders through its architecture. This was a cooperative society of people with predominantly Germanic roots that gained the sobriquet, "Dutchtown," due to its heavily German architecture.[2]

This thesis documents the distribution of house types within the Willamette Valley of the settlement era 1840-1865, using a case study in Brownsville, Oregon, to more thoroughly examine settlement houses and their original occupants.[3] Through

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[1] Hubert Wilhelm, "The Pennsylvania-Dutch Barn in Southeastern Ohio," *Material Culture* 39, no. 1 (Spring 2007), 57.

[2] Aurora is an extreme, and therefore good, example of an architectural type that moved west with a group of people. It is, however, an outlier in many aspects. Aurora, founded as a cooperative society, was home to a group of predominantly Germanic people, most of whom traveled west together from Pennsylvania. Philip Dole, "Aurora Colony Architecture: Building in a Nineteenth-Century Cooperative Society," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 92, no. 4 (Winter 1991/1992): 377-378.

[3] Though generally falling close to this range, what is recognized as the settlement period varies by a few years on either end. This particular date range, 1840-1865, was used for this project because these are the parameters used by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office in their survey of settlement era homesteads. This survey makes up the data set used for this thesis.

detailed study of extant settlement-era dwellings and the pioneers that built them, this thesis proposes that architectural types in the early Willamette Valley are less rooted in the geographic origins of the owner than previously understood and are tied to a more complex system of influences.

Settlement dwelling types and the diffusion of settlers in the Willamette Valley based on their geographic origins are both topics that have been studied previously. The diffusion of settlers within the Willamette Valley has not, however, been thoroughly studied in tandem with the types of houses they chose to build. House types are commonly thought to be directly linked to a person's geographic origin: the idea of cultural diffusion posits that the migration of populations can be traced in part through building types. This study aims to examine this idea further, using the extant settlement dwellings in the Willamette Valley and archival information to further knowledge about architectural influences in mid-nineteenth century Oregon.

B. Research Questions

This thesis examines the following research questions:

1. In looking at the houses of 1840-1865 in the Willamette Valley, are there visible patterns in or groupings of extant settlement-period house types? If so, what processes and influences helped shape this architectural landscape?

2. Brownsville appears to have a high number of a locally-specific architectural subtype, which may enable deeper investigation of the development of architectural landscapes during the Willamette Valley's settlement period. How

important were the geographic origins of early Brownsville settlers in shaping this particular architectural landscape pattern?

C. Context: Overview of Euro-American Historical Settlement in the Study Area

Oregon enjoyed a robust settlement period as the concept of manifest destiny drove Americans westward in the nineteenth century. From 1845 to 1850, alone, the population of Oregon grew from 2,110 to 11,873, a six-fold increase.[4] The predominant years of settlement in the state of Oregon are recognized as beginning in 1842, with the arrival of the first large wagon train. The settlement period lasted until the 1870s, when the railroads took over as the primary mode of long-distance transportation. Most prominent was the transcontinental line from the Great Lakes to Portland, which was completed in 1869 and shortened the trip west from a four-month trek to a four-day ride.[5]

About 100 miles long and 20 miles wide, the Willamette Valley was the main destination for settlers.[6] Located between the dense forests of the Cascade Range to the east and the Coast range to the west, the Willamette Valley has a long and relatively mild rainy season, which was ideal for settlers who would need to live off of the land. Settlers were driven west not only by nationalistic fervor but also by economic depression in the United States and the promise of free land in Oregon.[7] At the same time as the word of

[4] William A. Bowen, *The Willamette Valley: Migration and Settlement on the Oregon Frontier* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1978), 14 and 17.

[5] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 203-205.

[6] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 284.

[7] Philip L Jackson and A. Jon Kimerling, editors, *Atlas of the Pacific Northwest* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2003), 14.

missionaries and others spread, beckoning Americans westward, the Panic of 1837 struck. Economic depression combined with malaria epidemics back east made Oregon, "the land of milk and honey," all the more enticing.[8] Thus began the two-thousand-mile migration along the route that became known as the Oregon Trail. The Oregon Trail would see approximately 350,000 people from the Midwest and Atlantic states before the end of the nineteenth century.[9]

Just over two hundred settlement-era houses are currently known to remain in the Willamette Valley from this period of Oregon Trail settlers; they are a testament to this important growth period in Oregon's past.[10] The Willamette Valley is largely defined by the north-flowing Willamette River watershed. A wide swath of fertile land, the Willamette Valley makes up much of western Oregon and extends nearly to Oregon's southern and northern borders. Its prairie-like look, conveniently free of forest when the pioneers arrived, was created by an annual burning of the valley by Native Americans: they set fire to the prairie land each fall, primarily to round up game.[11] This annual burning greatly increased the food production potential in the Willamette Valley and,

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[8] The Donation Land Act of 1850 made Oregon even more tempting, with the promise of free land to settlers who met certain requirements. Sources: Center For Columbia River History, "Donation Land Claim Act," http://www.ccrh.org/comm/cottage/primary/claim.htm *Accessed November 2013.* and Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 138.

[9] Philip L Jackson and A. Jon Kimerling, editors, *Atlas of the Pacific Northwest* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2003), 14.

[10] This number is based on the Oregon Historic Sites Database records of houses in the Willamette Valley built 1840-1865. It conforms with scholar Philip Dole's estimate. Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 96.

[11] Howard McKinley Corning, Ed., *Dictionary of Oregon History* (Portland, Oregon: Binfords & Mort, Publishers, 1956), 268.

well used in multi-year cycles, was a tool to manage shrubby plants like hazel and huckleberries.[12]

The extant settlement-era houses embody a number of cultural characteristics, from the building methods of newly-arrived settlers in Oregon to settlement patterns and cultural diffusion to the movement and intermingling of Eastern, Midwestern, and Southern building types west to the Willamette Valley region. Notably, this group of settlement houses in the Willamette Valley reflects second, if not third, builds: settlers typically arrived in the fall, which necessitated either building a quick, more temporary house for the winter, or, if they were lucky, lodging in the dwelling of a friend or family member who was already in Oregon. Since 1784, log cabins had been popular among American frontiersmen as an easy, practical, short-term dwelling. They were temporary, however, and were replaced as soon as materials, time, and finances enabled construction of framed dwellings.[13]

Philip Dole, professor of architecture at the University of Oregon from 1956 to 1987, suggested that settlers often built three successive houses.[14] They built improved dwellings as resources like sawn lumber became more readily accessible and as they had more time than the hurried first construction than they did for early shelters built mainly to provide a roof in time for the winter. The dwellings progressed from a log cabin, or "crude shelter," to a hewn log house, to a sawn lumber house. The first construction, a

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[12] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 284-285.

[13] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 216.

[14] Having two successive log homes was a pioneer practice nationally, as well, referenced in, "How to Build a Log House," the *American Agriculturalist,* XII (July 1858), 200. Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 82.

log cabin, might have been used for only a month or may have been used for several years, depending on circumstances like construction quality. The second build, a hewn log house, is described by Dole as, "substantial, carefully built, [and] emphatically distinguished from the first 'log cabin.'" The hewn log house was made of logs that were squared and hewn to a width of six inches (height varied); it had one or two rooms and a sleeping loft above.[15] Extant settlement houses studied by scholars like Philip Dole still have stories to tell. Inventories available through the Oregon Historic Sites Database make closer study of the full Willamette Valley more feasible.[16]

a) Nineteenth Century Willamette Valley Settlement

Understanding this project requires an awareness of the historical events, previous research in related subjects, and information about the historic houses that remain from the settlement period. The settlement of the Willamette Valley came in several small waves but most prominent was the settling of the Oregon Trail pioneers. The Oregon Trail pioneers not only outnumbered their predecessors by thousands; they also came with the express interest of staying permanently. The preceding missionaries and fur trappers were fewer in numbers and mission was not predominantly settlement. With them, the settlers brought architectural knowledge from the Midwest, the East, and beyond. The history of the people informs their buildings and it is important to understand settlement patterns: knowing where people came from can, for example, explain their choices in building massing and style. The later case study, which examines

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[15] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 82.

[16] Specifically, the Settlement Era Homesteads of the Willamette Valley survey administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.

the building idiom that arose in Brownsville, relies on the historical knowledge about the pioneers who settled in Brownsville. The case study examines not only their geographic origins but their cultural origins, occupations, and connections with other settlers.

European explorers made their first contact with the Native American population of the Pacific Northwest in 1774, when the Spanish expedition of Juan Perez explored the coast of Washington. They found a thriving population: Native groups had lived in the Columbia River area for over 10,000 years and the coast tribes alone spoke two dozen distinct languages.[17] The Willamette Valley was home to Kalapuyan speakers of many villages and dialects; they are divided into communities by river basins and many of these community names remain: Tualatin, Yamhill, and Santiam, for example are all names seen in the Willamette Valley.[18]

Several events contributed to the dramatic demographic change in the region as Native American populations fell, Euro-American populations rose. Disease took its toll on the Native Americans, with smallpox spreading in the Pacific Northwest in the 1780s and the intermittent fever (malaria) in the 1830s.[19] The Willamette Valley indigenous peoples, or the Kalapuya, are estimated to have numbered near or above 20,000 in 1770, but by the mid-1840s, it is estimated that less than 600 remained.[20] Beginning in the

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[17] Elizabeth von Aderkas, *American Indians of the Pacific Northwest* (Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2005), 3 and 5.

[18] Kalapuya is the name used to refer to the Native Americans of the larger Willamette Valley. This is not to be confused with the Calapooia, the name applied to the Native Americans of the Brownsville area. The names likely have the same root. Furthermore, the spelling variations of many and fairly interchangeable. C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 286.

[19] Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 11.

[20] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 287.

1850s they faced further struggle as the United States government tried to move the native population on to reservations. Wars between the European settlers and the native population in the western United States lasted from the 1840s until the 1870s. At the same time, the population of settlers was growing faster than ever before.[21] Early settlement of the Willamette Valley came in three waves: fur traders, missionaries, and finally the pioneers. This third wave of Euro-Americans into Oregon was by far the largest.

The fur trade drew international attention to the Pacific Northwest: as many as a few thousand men, primarily American and French-Canadian, were drawn to the Pacific Northwest, and the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver became the major trade point. The period of fur trappers lasted only from the around the 1820s to the mid-1840s, at which point few beaver remained and most of the mountain men spread to the many settlements that were now growing throughout the West.[22]

Following the fur traders west were the missionaries, who began to arrive in the Willamette Valley in 1834. Representing Roman Catholic and Methodist groups, the missionaries intended to educate the Native American population in religion and Western ways. The first was Methodist Jason Lee, born in Canada in 1803. Lee was chosen in 1833 to direct the "Mission to the Flathead Indians of Oregon."[23] Four Indian missions were established early on in the Willamette Valley, two Roman Catholic missions on the

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[21] Elizabeth von Aderkas, *American Indians of the Pacific Northwest* (Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 2005), 4-5.

[22] Many of the fur traders used their knowledge of the West and served as escorts to the early missionaries and settlers that came in the following years. Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 123-124 and 129.

[23] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 129-130.

west side of the Willamette River and two Methodist missions on the east side (one of which was Jason Lee's Willamette Mission).[24]

On the heels of the missionaries, and due in part to the missionaries' expounding on the great qualities of the Pacific Northwest in literature and speeches, came the first Oregon Trail settlers. Their reasons for traveling west were manifold; there was a mix of pushing and pulling factors. Enthusiasts like Hall Jackson Kelley advocated strongly for America's movement westward, enticing would-be settlers with stories of Oregon country.[25] A Massachusetts teacher, Kelley took interest in Oregon after reading the Lewis and Clark journals as published by Nicholas Biddle in 1814; "bitten by the Oregon bug," Kelley put together pamphlets and circulars and preached sermons on the virtues of Oregon to anyone who would listen.[26] Kelley even planned a caravan to Oregon, organized the American Society for the Settlement of the Oregon Territory in 1828 and enrolled 400 prospective emigrants for the trip.[27] While perhaps on the more extreme end, Kelley was not alone. Businessmen like Nathaniel Wyeth, fur traders, and

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[24] Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 120.

[25] Hall Jackson Kelley presented a memorial to Congress in 1828 through John Floyd (of Virginia), urging the United States Government to grant tracts of land in the west to settlers. At the time his thoughts may have seemed outlandish, but the United States government created the Donation Land Claim Act several decades later to do just that. Oregon drew settlers by the thousands. Source: David Lavender, *Westward Vision: The Story of the Oregon Trail* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1985), 214.

[26] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 122.

[27] Failing to get financial aid from Congress and failing, Kelley's group disintegrated. He made the trip himself in 1832 and returned to Boston shortly thereafter, where he resumed agitation for settlement in Oregon Country. Howard McKinley Corning, Ed., *Dictionary of Oregon History* (Portland, Oregon: Binfords & Mort, Publishers, 1956), 132.

missionaries like Jason Lee, Marcus and Narcissa Whitman, and Father Pierre-Jean De Smet were also among those to advertise the Oregon Country from 1820 to 1840.[28]

Oregon Country, this rumored agricultural Eden, grew more alluring upon the onset of disease and depression in the States. In 1837, the United States went into a severe depression known as the Panic of 1837. Caused by multiple national and international factors, the Panic is attributed largely to the failure of the banking system in the United States in the 1830s. The Second National Bank had two large disruptions in 1836 and 1837: first, a distribution of $28 million of the federal surplus at the order of the Treasury, and second, the demand for specie in the West due to the Jackson administration's requirement as of July 1836 that public lands could only be purchased with specie. These measures caused reserves in New York City's deposit banks to drop from $7.2 million to $1.5 million between September 1836 and May 1837, triggering one of the largest depressions in US history.[29] The Panic of 1837 struck the Midwestern farmers particularly hard: Chicago was experiencing a period of prosperity that had fed rampant speculation. Chicago fell hard when the Panic hit, and the entire region felt it. In the following years, the bulk grain trade was initiated, utilizing the newly invented grain elevator, to the profit of some but the detriment of small farmers.[30]

The financial depression across the United States was not the only factor that pushed potential emigrants west. Epidemics of malaria and other diseases arose,

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[28] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 122-123.

[29] Peter L. Rousseau, "Jacksonian Monetary Policy, Specie Flows, and the Panic of 1837," *The Journal of Economic History* 62, no. 2 (June 2002): 457-458.

[30] Patrick E. McLear, "Speculation, Promotion, and the Panic of 1837 in Chicago," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society (1908-1984)* 62, no. 2 (Summer 1969): 144-146.

encouraging more to leave in hope of better things.[31] In 1841, the first organized groups

of more than 50 people set out for Oregon and California. 1842, often seen as the

beginning of the period of westward migration on the Oregon Trail, saw 120 overlanders

and 18 wagons depart from Independence, Missouri.[32] These overlanders were primarily

families that functioned as teams to make the trip successfully.[33] In 1843 came the Great

Migration: the first large wagon train to follow the Oregon Trail westward. Almost 900

settlers made their way to Oregon in 1843, an already staggering number that was nearly

doubled in 1844 and again in 1845. Upon the discovery of gold in California, the

numbers of immigrants to the West skyrocketed: 50,000 traveled west in 1850 and

60,000 in 1852.[34]

At first inspection, the pioneers who settled in Oregon were largely from the

Midwest. This has been somewhat disputed by scholar Jesse Douglas, who points out that

statistics are skewed by the number of pioneer children who were born in the Midwest to

parents from the Atlantic states. Douglas used data from the 1850 Census and determined

that 80% of dependents (or children) in the Oregon Territory were born in what he calls

"the child belt:" Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and

Michigan. Meanwhile, a full 74.2% of adult settlers in the Oregon Territory were from

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[31] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 138.

[32] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 138. And, Howard McKinley Corning, Ed., *Dictionary of Oregon History* (Portland, Oregon: Binfords & Mort, Publishers, 1956), 186.

[33] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 142.

[34] Richard W. Etulain, *Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2006), 138.

states further east, more than half coming from states on the Atlantic Coast.[35] All of this

is important in considering cultural origins, like how settlers built their houses. Scholar

Robert Sutton argues that the Midwest was formational, especially for Oregon's

carpenters, of which nearly 4 in 10 lived in the Midwest for a decade or more prior to

moving to Oregon.[36] Douglas is in near agreement, concluding that, while the states on

the Atlantic Coast, "contributed more to the cultural background of the Pacific Northwest

than has generally been realized," the Midwest had a strong influence on the population

of the Oregon Territory.[37]

     The way the Willamette Valley was settled was driven in part by the Donation

Land Act, as well as the need of settlers to develop agricultural land both to make a living

and to fulfill claim requirements. The Donation Land Act of 1850 provided 640 acres of

free land to any married (320 if single) white male settler over the age of 18 who could

occupy and develop their land for four years.[38] Women were not left out: in numerous

instances husbands died on the journey west and widows settled in Oregon. In cases like

this, women made their own claims. For married women, half of the 640 acre claim was

under the wife's name. The 1888 Senate Bill No. 1707 confirmed title in widows and

single women who had settled on public lands in good faith and claimed donation rights

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[35] Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 107.

[36] The number of carpenters listed in the 1850 Census is 148, excluding the 46 single young men in Portland and Oregon City who did not own property and did not identify as carpenters 10 years later; they may have been part of building crews. Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 114-115.

[37] Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 108.

[38] Center For Columbia River History, "Donation Land Claim Act," http://www.ccrh.org/comm/cottage/primary/claim.htm *Accessed November 2013.*

under the act of 1850.[39] Settlers flocked to Oregon to stake their claims. The occupancy

requirement caused hesitation for some people to congregate in towns: agrarians staked

out large claims and were required to occupy them.[40]

How people built their houses once they settled depended on many things,

particularly availability of materials, skills, and labor. The settlement architecture of the

Pacific Northwest has been studied most thoroughly by the late University of Oregon

professor Phillip Dole. In his 1974 essay, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette

Valley," Dole described a variety of house and barn types, noting the complexity of why

any one settler would build in any particular way. The settlers often knew people upon

arrival, if not a family member, then an acquaintance: someone from their home state or

their religious group.[41] There was also the building knowledge they brought with them,

and they came from nearly every area of the older Eastern states.[42] The variety and

diversity of settlement architecture in the Willamette Valley, wrote Dole, is

extraordinary.[43]

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[39] Howard McKinley Corning, Ed., *Dictionary of Oregon History* (Portland, Oregon: Binfords & Mort, Publishers, 1956), 75.

[40] Lloyd D. Black, "Middle Willamette Valley Population Growth" (*Oregon Historical Quarterly* 43, no. 1, March 1942), 44.

[41] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79.

[42] Thomas R. Garth, Jr, "Early Architecture in the Northwest" (*The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3, July 1947), 215-232.

[43] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79.

b) Architectural History of the Early Willamette Valley Settlement:

Building Styles, Forms, and Influences

Architecture in Oregon during between 1840 and 1865 was influenced by 17th century architecture on the East Coast and in the Midwest. Architectural knowledge came from builders' guides and plan books, as well as the first-hand knowledge of settlers.[44] The stereotypical building of settlers, the log cabin, was relatively short-lived in Oregon as elsewhere and log cabins were considered temporary. They were a practical short-term solution to shelter, as a broad-axe was the only tool required.[45] A "real" house, a house of lumber, was typically built an average of six years later.[46] Scholar Philip Dole estimates that this lumber house was often the third dwelling on the property and, as Oregon's settlers represented nearly every region in the East and Midwest, "an extraordinarily varied and diverse architecture began to appear in the valley in the 1840s."[47]

During the 1840s, pioneers constructed a series of main buildings in a predictable fashion: first, a log cabin, then a temporary barn, a permanent barn, and then a hewn-log

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[44] The Fort Dalles Surgeon's Quarters, circa 1857, is a still-standing testament to the use of plan books in Oregon. This Gothic Revival house is based on a design in Andrew Jackson Downing's *Architecture of Country Houses* (1850). Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983): 66. Furthermore, first-hand knowledge of settlers played a huge role in house types: as Dole states, houses and barns were often, "very like that a grandfather or great grandfather might have built in Pennsylvania or Virginia." Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79.

[45] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 216.

[46] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 82 and 96.

[47] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79 and 82.

house.[48] Log cabins were replaced by houses of heavy frame or plank construction for three reasons. First, the log cabin was intended to be a temporary structure. Although some were used for a decade or longer, the hallmark of the log cabin was the speed with which it could be erected. Secondly, the appearance of local sawmills made the more practical wood boards easily accessible. Finally, the size of the trees in Oregon meant that building with logs was an extremely difficult endeavor that necessitated more builders per house.[49] Scholar Marion Dean Ross has pointed out that in the supposed print that illustrates the first house in Portland, Oregon, the logs of the house are substantially smaller than the tree trunks that surround it, suggesting that these trees were too large for easy use (See Figure 1).

The discussion of architectural history in Oregon during the settlement period focused on in this thesis can be divided into two categories: the analysis of building types themselves (styles and forms), and the study of settlers' building knowledge. The latter section directly informs the main research question of this project's case

Figure 1. Portland's supposed first house. Oregon State Archives.

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[48] Certainly, a number of buildings may have been constructed between these, including outbuildings of various types (e.g., smokehouse). Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 102.

[49] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 38. And, Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 82.

study: How important were the geographic origins of early Brownsville settlers in shaping this particular architectural landscape pattern?

Stylistic Influences

The Oregon Trail settlers may have been new to Oregon, but their architecture wasn't new: the settlement architecture of the Willamette Valley largely reflects the 17th century architecture from the East Coast.[50] Houses in the Willamette Valley from 1840 to 1865 had several main stylistic influences. In rough chronological order, these were Federal, Classical, Gothic Revival, and Italianate.[51]

The Classical Revival includes three styles, Federal, Greek, and Roman; Classical Revival itself is used to describe houses that are clearly Classical but don't possess enough detail (like a full pediment and columns) to be referred to as Greek or Roman. The Federal emerged in Colonial New England and was popular 1770-1830 on the East Coast.[52] A rectangular box with the entry on the long side, Federalist houses often had a columned porch with portico above the front entry. In Oregon, the Federalist style manifested as side-gable or hip roof houses with sidelights and transom light at the entry.

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[50] Philip Dole suggests a "pronounced conservatism" in building, both in houses and barns, noting that they were often very like the buildings the settlers' father and grandfather might have built. Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79.

[51] The Second Empire Baroque style is worth a note here but it was not included in the tally of the four main styles for several reasons. Second Empire Baroque is a style more commonly seen in public buildings (like schools and courthouses). Furthermore, Second Empire is often grouped with Italian Renaissance Revival, due to similar time periods (as in Rosalind Clark's *Oregon Style*). Finally, Second Empire style celebrated its largest popularity in Oregon during the 1870s and 1880s: after the time period that is being considered in this study. Source: Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983): 66.

[52] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 169

The principle addition seen is a two-level porch across the long front side.[53] The John

McLoughlin House in Oregon City (1846) is an example of a Federalist house in

Oregon.[54] The McLoughlin House, one of the oldest houses still standing in Oregon, is

two stories with a hip roof and a front door that features sidelights and transom (See

Figure 2). It is not typical of 1840s architecture in Oregon or nationally, rather, it strongly suggests late eighteenth century New England.[55]

Classical Revival houses

Figure 2. The John McLoughlin House, an example of the Federalist style. National Park

were most popular in the United States from 1825-1860 and in

Oregon from 1840 through the 1850s, after which, though Classical Revival houses were

still common, Gothic Revival became the preferred mode.[56] There are approximately 115

Classical Revival houses of the settlement era remaining in the Willamette Valley, dating

from 1844 to 1865. As Classical Revival house, they are noted for their low-pitch roof,

wide bands of trim at the cornice line (or frieze), and eave returns. Classical Revival

houses may also feature pedimented gables, pilaster corner boards, and columned

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[53] L. M. Roth, Oregon Architecture Outline, (Fall 2012): 22.

[54] L. M. Roth, Oregon Architecture Outline, (Fall 2012): 22.

[55] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 37.

[56] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 45.

porches.[57] Rectangular in general massing, they can have a transverse (side) or front gable. The front gabled roof subtype is common in the Northeast, parts of the Midwest, and the Willamette and Sacramento Valleys.[58] The George C. Cooley House, in Brownsville Oregon, is an example of this front-gable Classical Revival.

Classical Revival houses with stronger details than those seen on the John McLoughlin House were more common in Oregon. The Forbes Barclay House, c.1850, now the neighbor of the John McLoughlin House, is another example of a Classical Revival. Described by Marion Dean Ross as "a type much more common in Oregon" than the McLoughlin House, the Barclay House is 1.5 stories with a side-facing gable and four columns along an engaged porch.[59]

The Greek Revival style is another mode within the Classical Revival style. Greek Revival is more commonly seen in Oregon.[60] With characteristics drawn directly from the Greek temples like the Parthenon, some Greek Revival houses take on a temple-like form, having full pediments rather than just eave returns and porches with two-story columns rather than simply pilasters to mimic columns. This study will consider these more "high style" dwellings to be "Greek Revival." Houses that are subtler in their classical references are considered "Classical Revival." The Greek Revival is necessarily nested within the Classical Revival category.

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[57] Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983), 35.

[58] The distribution of Greek Revival Subtypes is mapped on page 183. Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 179-183.

[59] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 37.

[60] Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983), 35.

Gothic Revival houses are defined by steeply pitched roofs, steep cross gables, and decorative vergeboard; they held an overall vertical emphasis (See Figure 3 for gable details). The Gothic Revival was promoted by plan books, such as Andrew Jackson Downing's *Architecture of Country Houses*, and was popular nationally from 1840 to 1880.[61] In Oregon, the style grew in popularity during the 1850s and tapered off in the 1870s as Italian Revival picked up.[62] There are around 48 Gothic Revival houses of the settlement era remaining in the Willamette Valley, dating from 1848 to 1865. The E.J. Holmes House in Portland, Oregon, (c. 1855) is an example of a house that echoes the Downing-Davis cottage plans. A number of houses in Jacksonville, Oregon, from 1851-1880 are Gothic Revival.[63]
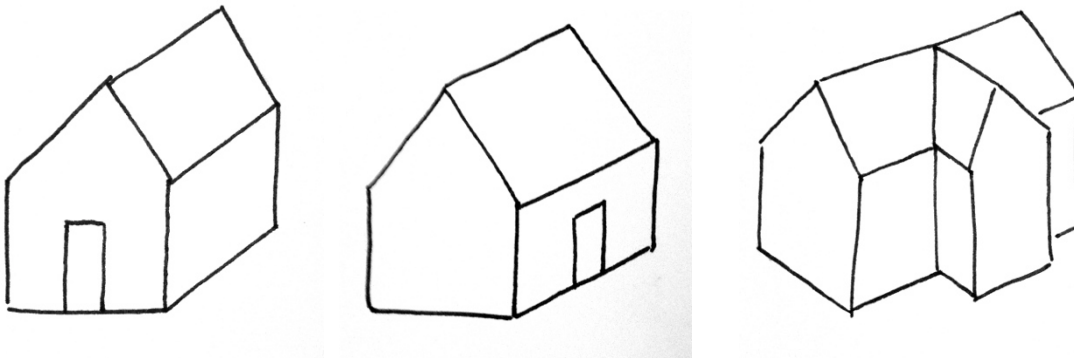
Figure 3. House gable diagrams: front-gabled house, side-gabled house, and cross-gabled house (left to right). The first two are discussed in the Classical Revival section; Gothic Revival houses are often cross-gabled. Figures drawn by author. Source: Virginia and Lee McAlester, *Field Guide to American Houses.*

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[61] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 197.

[62] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 46-49.

[63] Jacksonville was settled when gold was discovered nearby in 1851-1852. The town flourished: it was larger than Portland in these early years. However, when the railroad bypassed the town in 1880, development came to a stand-still. Jacksonville's boomtown architecture is part of its tourist draw, today. Source: L. M. Roth, Oregon Architecture Outline, (Fall 2012): 31.

In some cases, Oregon builders and carpenters were known to mix Classical Revival and Gothic Revival features.[64] Some Classical Revival houses had Gothic Revival details superimposed on them. For example, in the case of the Joseph Watt House (destroyed by fire in 1973), the form and elements were predominantly Classical Revival, but the chimneystacks and the center second floor windows were influenced by the Gothic Revival style.[65] The c.1865 J. M. Moyer House in Brownsville is arguably a similar case. Dole notes this house as "a very small Gothic house," but its only real hint at Gothic style is the Gothic kitchen porch: in form, direction, and details it is a Classical Revival house. Its front-facing gable with eave returns clearly says Classical Revival.[66] The Dr. H.A. Davis House near Harrisburg has a mix of Classical and Gothic Revival elements: the doorway is classical but the barge-boards and other details reflect Gothic Revival tastes.[67]

Following Gothic Revival style was Renaissance Revival style. As with other architectural styles, true Renaissance Revival came later to Oregon than the rest of the United States. Some early Oregon examples of Italianate and Italian Villa appeared as early as the 1860s in Portland.[68] Italianate was popular from 1840 to 1885 in the larger

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[64] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 48.

[65] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 125.

[66] Edgar Williams & Co, *Historical Atlas Map of Linn and Marion Counties* (San Francisco: Edgar Williams & Co, 1878). Also, Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 124-125.

[67] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 48.

[68] L. M. Roth, Oregon Architecture Outline, (Fall 2012): 34.

United States, though wasn't used much in Oregon until around 1870.[69] Italianate

buildings are identifiable particularly by their low-pitched or even flat roof; they also

feature widely overhanging eaves often with decorative brackets. The windows are

usually very tall and narrow in form.[70]

Building Forms: Construction and Plan Types

Buildings were often echoes of Eastern and Midwestern counterparts not only in

style but also in form. As Philip Dole puts it, houses constructed by settlers in Oregon

were often, "very like that a grandfather or great grandfather might have built in

Pennsylvania or Virginia."[71] For example, the framed dwelling construction technique

visible in New England by 1820 and New Englanders--many of the earliest settlers--

brought the frame knowledge with them to Oregon.[72]

In general, settlement era houses can be divided into groups by form: houses of

the 1840s and 1850s tended towards a single rectangular volume. A number of them had

wings extending from the rear, creating an L-shaped plan. For example, the 1859 Charles

Berry-Willis House in Yamhill County has a kitchen to the rear and thus an L-shaped

plan.[73] The 1860s saw more complex houses that were made up of several attached

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[69] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 45.

[70] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 211.

[71] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79.

[72] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 216.

[73] O'Brien, "Yamhill County Cultural Resources Inventory: Willis/Berry Place," (Yamhill County, 1984), 1.

volumes.[74] Improvements—namely, additions—in houses directly reflected improvements in farming operations and claims, not to mention industrial and technical developments. The appearance of planing mills and sash and door and blind factories, like J. M. Moyer's in Brownsville, established 1863, were instrumental in Oregon's architectural development.[75] The availability of standardized materials facilitated adaptation for houses of current national styles and utilitarian building. As Dole states, "in short, the response of the mills to new building ideas promoted another kind of vernacular, but a more rapidly changing one."[76]

There were even more construction techniques than there were groups coming to Oregon, and the variety of expertise and backgrounds was immense: the fur traders were of French-Canadian, British, and American backgrounds; the missionaries included American Methodists and Catholics; and the settlers represented states in New England, the Mid-Atlantic, and South. For example, the Swedish log cabin technique, which was introduced in New England in 1638, was little known in Canada, where many of the fur traders originated. Canadians tended toward a modified form of frame construction.[77] The 1820s the Hudson's Bay Company--which operated largely around the fur trade--used

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[74] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 117.

[75] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 118-119.

[76] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 120.

[77] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 216.

dominantly the post-in-sill technique. This technique, which used hewn logs that slid into notches in vertical corner posts, was French-Canadian.[78]

The 1830s saw the rise of American missions, which used both the building techniques of the French-Canadian and American trappers and architectural elements from the eastern United States, where most of the missionaries originated.[79] New England tradition was perhaps the strongest influence on the mission-period construction, though some substantial variations were used to accommodate material availability. The Whitman Mission, in what is now eastern Washington, exhibited a New England influence, fur trade architecture, and material availability. The first house had a New England salt-box shape but took on the fur traders' construction method of pegged timber frame and used adobe brick out of necessity to fill in the walls.[80] The missionaries did not often use the log cabin. Rather, they relied deeply on fur-trade architectural knowledge and created a hybridized architecture by combining fur-trader techniques with New England elements.[81]

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[78] Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 98. And, Arthur A. Hart, "Fur Trade Posts and Early Missions," in *Space, Style, and Structure,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 36-37.

[79] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 222.

[80] Arthur A. Hart, "Fur Trade Posts and Early Missions," in *Space, Style, and Structure,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 40.

[81] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 231.

Jason Lee's Willamette Mission also took on the form of a New England salt-box house in form and plan (See Figure 4). However, unlike Whitman's mission, the surviving Willamette Mission is a framed clapboard structure.[82] The plan of the Willamette Mission was that of a New England salt-box house: rectangular with the front door central on the long side, a salt-box house has two rooms in the front with a central chimney that serves both rooms. A lean-to is often added to the back, and true to form, the Willamette Mission had a back addition by 1837.[83]

Figure 4. A New England salt-box. Adapted by the author. From Virginia and Lee McAlester, *Field Guide to American Houses.*

When the Oregon Trail settlers arrived, beginning in the 1840s, they brought with them the knowledge of how to build a log cabin. Though many had roots in the Atlantic states, the Oregon pioneers had strong connections to the Ohio River Valley region (Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri), where they often settled for a decade or

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[82] Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 98. And, Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 222.

[83] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 222.

more and where the log cabin had already proved useful.[84] The plans and forms for these cabins were simple since they were just one or two rooms.[85]

Houses often progressed from hewn-log cabins to frame houses depending on the availability of materials. The availability of sawmills made constructing sawn-lumber houses easier, a transition that happened first in towns, where both sawmills and expertise were present.[86] With the growing of towns and the presence of more readily available sawmills, the number of framed structures increased rapidly. Until 1847, Portland had no frame houses; by 1854 almost all of the houses in Portland were framed.[87] Of course, there was a gradation; occasionally, log cabins were covered with weatherboards or shakes so they looked like frame houses. All houses, whether hewn frame, balloon, or box, used some hewn members: sills, girders, and sometimes joists supporting the main floor were hewn.[88]

There were three framing types used in the settlement period in Oregon: hewn frame, balloon, and box. Hewn frame faded from popular use by 1860.[89] Balloon frame,

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[84] As mentioned in Douglas, "Origins of the Population," many had roots in the Atlantic states but a huge percentage of the pioneers spent at least a few years living in the Midwest before continuing on to Oregon. Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 230. And, Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950), 108.

[85] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 82. And, Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 230.
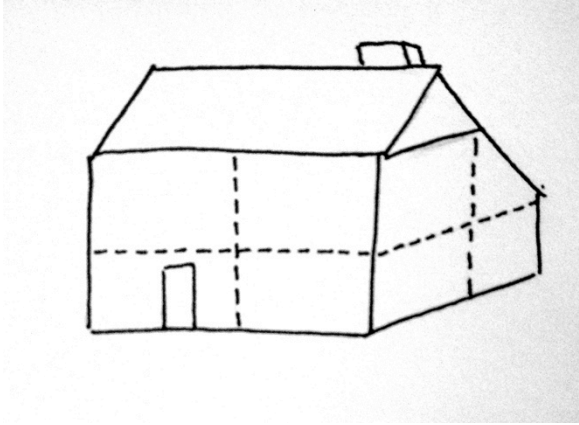
[86] Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 102.

[87] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 230.

[88] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 82.

[89] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 97-98.

which made up more than a third of the houses before 1860, lasted into the 20th century. Balloon frame houses are characterized by studs that are the full height of the building and not broken by a second floor.[90] Box construction is considered by Dole to be the most remarkable of the three construction types. A system that involves layering of vertically-set planks, box construction does not use posts or studs and results in a thin— about 3 inches—completed wall. The advantage of box construction, which continued to be built after 1900, is that it took far fewer materials (half as many nails); these box construction houses are remarkably durable but have the disadvantage of little insulation.[91]

Plan types among the extant settlement era houses are almost all central passage, crosswing, double house, hall-parlor, salt-box, or side passage / entry (See Figure 5).[92] Plan types, and sometimes styles, influence the exterior appearance in terms of shape and massing. For example, a New England salt-box house, as discussed in conjunction with the Willamette Mission, takes on a rectangular shape with a central door on the long side, a central chimney, and an addition along the back (often, however, part of the original structure, especially in Oregon).[93] The exterior appearance necessarily informs and is informed by the plan type. The salt-box generally has two rooms, each with a fireplace (both serviced by the central chimney), with added rooms on the back of the house.

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[90] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 98.

[91] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 98-99.

[92] The extant settlement houses here are those listed on the Oregon Historic Sites Database.

[93] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 222.
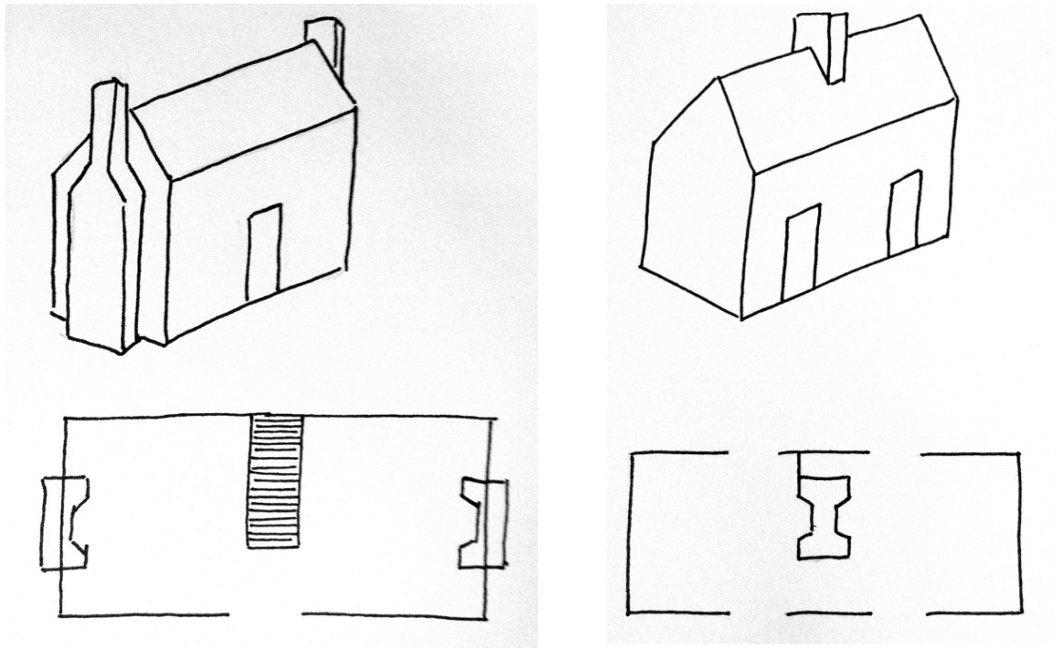
Figure 5. Left, hall-and-parlor house in plan and form. Right, a double house in plan and form. Drawings by the author. Source: Virginia and Lee McAlester, *Field Guide to American Houses.*

The Influence of Carpenters and Plan Books on House Types

Just as the Oregon settlers had access to guides and information about how to make the trip to Oregon, they had access to knowledge about how to build a house when they got there.[94] Some of the pioneers, like Brownsville's Enoch and Augustus Thompson, were carpenters on the East Coast and would have gained building knowledge or perhaps formal training prior to their move to Oregon.[95] Other information was gained through neighbors or picked up in plan books.

First-hand knowledge of architectural forms, plans, and styles is one of many things that influenced how a house was built. Trends and techniques traveled west with

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[94] Some information was word of mouth, but there were many published guides for getting to Oregon. For example: J.M. Shively, *Route and Distances to Oregon and California: With a Brief Description of Watering Places, Crossings, Dangerous Indians, etc. etc.* (Washington, 1846).

[95] The Thompsons are connected to the 1867 Henderson House (also known as the Thompson-Cable House) on Main Street in Brownsville. More information on the Thompsons can be found in the Brownsville case study section. Source: "Oregon Inventory," Linn County Historical Museum Records.

the carpenters who knew and practiced them. The use of the Classical Revival as an early

architectural style in Oregon, for example, can be tied directly to the fact that it was

current on the East Coast in the 1810s.[96] This should come as no surprise: given the

style's popularity since many people who would later cross the Oregon Trail had

probably at least seen Classical Revival houses, if not lived in one or built one

themselves. The Classical Revival style is significant because it is a readily visible

element that was clearly influenced by, and brought from, the eastern United States.

In his 1992 book, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon,* Robert Sutton elaborates on

the carpenter, or craftsman, with respect to the Greek Revival settlement houses in

Oregon. Many of the settlers were not skilled carpenters, and thus hired local carpenters

who were able to help them construct their houses. Like many Oregon settlers, the

carpenters often had roots in the Midwest, which may have been a strong influential

factor in how they built houses. While many were from states farther east, 38.6% of

carpenters listed in the 1850 Census for the Oregon Territory lived in the Midwest for at

least ten years prior to their journey west.[97] While it should be remembered that the

Oregon pioneers had heavy roots in the Atlantic states--statistics of pioneers' origins are

often skewed by the fact that many had children in the Midwest on their way to Oregon.

For this reason, the Midwest is called by scholar Jesse Douglas, the "crucible in which

the population of the Pacific Northwest was formed."[98]

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[96] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 40.

[97] Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 114.

[98] Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 108.

Augmenting first-hand knowledge and the pioneers' own experience was the expertise of other community members. A carpenter or builder in the community could and often did aid in the construction of his neighbors' houses. Carpentry was a common occupation, even in Oregon, where residents tended to report first as farmers to Census takers: in the 1860 Census, 81 residents in Linn County were listed as carpenters (out of 6,772 residents total).[99] To put Linn County in context: Linn County is in the southern half of the Willamette Valley. At 2,310 square miles, Linn County is one of the largest counties in the Willamette Valley. For comparison, Clackamas County, home of Oregon City and the end of the Oregon Trial, takes up 1,879 square miles and had a population of 3,466 in 1860.[100]

The tertiary influence on building types was literature: builders' guides and plan books. While Gothic Revival and plan books are more commonly associated, builders' guides preceded them. Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter* (1830) and *The Practice of Architecture* (1833) are two builders' guides that gave builders instructions on how to recreate structural details of classical orders. These guides are often credited with standardizing the Classical Revival style in the United States. Classical Revival houses in Oregon, of course, came in many variations, from "classic temple" houses to more modest Classical Revival dwellings.[101]

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[99] Internet Archive, "8th Population Census of the United States," *The Internet Archive,* http://archive.org/details/1860_census Accessed March 2014.

[100] Clackamas County, Oregon, "About Clackamas County." http://www.clackamas.us/pga/about.html Accessed April 2014. And, Linn County, "About Linn County." http://www.co.linn.or.us/index.php?content=about Accessed April 2014.

[101] Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983): 22.

Plan books are well known for having informed the design and detail of Classical and Gothic Revival houses, particularly their decorative elements. The plan book popularized Gothic Revival, a style that began in churches and became an ideal for cottages. Further, in the United States Gothic Revival popularized the plan book. Alexander Jackson Davis's *Rural Residences* (1837) was the first house plan book published in the United States and it championed Gothic Revival plans. Davis's book was the first to show not just details but also three-dimensional views complete with floor plans. Davis's ideas were picked up and expounded upon by a friend, Andrew Jackson Downing. Downing, who championed his own work with tireless enthusiasm, received much wider attention than his predecessor.[102] Downing's *The Architecture for Country Houses* (published in 1850) made Gothic Revival both accessible and desirable.[103] Gothic was highlighted as being the perfect rural style, being compatible with the natural landscape and suggesting a certain morality.[104] Gothic, a style associated with religious buildings, became attached to the ideal of rural living in a time period when the cities were growing dark and unhealthy.

Known Influences: Willamette Valley Examples

The various influences on early Oregon buildings are evident across the Willamette Valley and some of these have been previously documented. The William L.

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[102] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 200.

[103] Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983): 46.

[104] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 200.

Holmes House, a Classical Revival house dating to 1848 in Oregon City, is said to have

been modeled on William Holmes' Tennessee residence (See Figure 6).[105] This is a direct

example of a settler building a house type with which they had some familiarity. Several

settlement houses in the Willamette Valley are based on houses in the wife's home state.

According to oral histories, the Jesse and Julia Harritt House, a side-gabled Classical

Revival from 1858, was influenced by houses Julia McNary Harritt's home state,

Tennessee.[106]

       Other settlers built their houses based on houses they had seen that weren't

actually their own. The 1858 Sam Brown House was designed to the specifications of his wife, Elizabeth Brown, who based her ideas on a Southern house she remembered. The two-story Classical Revival house is located in Gervais, Marion County.[107] The house, with a

Figure 6. The William L. Holmes House is said to be modeled on William Holmes' Tennessee residence. National Register of Historic Places: Rose Farm.

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[105] Paul Hartwig, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: 'Rose Farm,' " (United States Department of the Interior, 1974), 4.

[106] Edward Sheehan, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Jesse and Julia Harritt House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1998), 6.

[107] The Sam Brown House is notable because it has a known design origin and a known designer. The National Register Nomination notes that it was designed by a Sam Brown (same name as the owner but a different person). Its strong Palladian influence is credited to Elizabeth Brown's preference, apart from pure designer / builder knowledge. Paul Hartwig, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Sam Brown House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1974), 2.

high central portion and lower wings, is almost Jeffersonian (or Palladian) in plan.[108]

Similarly, the William Case House of Aurora, seems to have been influenced not by

houses in which Case had lived, but houses Case had seen (See Figure 7). The 1859

dwelling is patterned after a Mississippi River French plantation house. William Case,

born in Indiana (and whose wife, Sara Case, was from Missouri), is said to have acquired

his impression of this peripteral architectural style while spending time in the Mississippi

watershed.[109]

Figure 7. The William Case house, with a colonnaded porch on multiple sides, resembles a Mississippi River French plantation house. National Register of Historic Places: William Case House.

A builder other than the owner constructed many Willamette Valley settlement houses, and it can be assumed that for some houses these reflected the builder's knowledge as well as owner preference. This is clearly the case with the Thomas Shadden House, an 1859 Classical Revival in McMinnville, Oregon. The

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[108] Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 37, 40.

[109] The Mississippi River French Plantation houses are recognizable for their broad, colonnaded veranda that wraps around the entire building. An alternate explanation for this house's French influence is the Frenchmen that settled in this area (retired Hudson Bay Company men that moved south to the Champoeg area to live permanently. Source: Paul Hartwig, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory-- Nomination Form: Case (William) House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1973), 1 and 14.

house, a two-story, side-gabled house with a central passage plan is recognizable for its grand two-story porch with pedimented gable and four full height boxed columns (See Figure 8).

Charles Berry, who emigrated from Maine to California in 1849, then north to Yamhill County, Oregon in 1850, constructed it for Thomas Shadden.[110] Berry ran a door and sash factory, powered by Berry Creek (northwest of McMinnville), and is noted for having constructed many residences and barns in the area.[111] Berry's own house, the Berry House, is also among the extant Willamette Valley settlement houses, and notably has striking similarities to the Thomas Shadden House, a testament to builders replicating techniques and designs (See Figure 9). While the Berry-Willis house is slightly

Figures 8 and 9. The Charles Berry House (top) and the Thomas Shadden House (bottom) were both constructed by Charles Berry. State of Oregon Inventory Historic Sites and Buildings. Yamhill County Cultural Resources Inventory.

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[110] Stephen Dow Beckham, "State of Oregon Inventory Historic Sites and Buildings: Shadden (Thomas J.) House," (Oregon State Parks, 1976), 3.

[111] Stephen Dow Beckham, "State of Oregon Inventory Historic Sites and Buildings: Shadden (Thomas J.) House," (Oregon State Parks, 1976), 3. Berry Creek runs southeast and is in the proximity of NW Berry Creek Road, northwest of McMinnville, Oregon. Source: Oregon Historic Sites Database, Berry House map, heritagedata.prd.state.or.us Accessed April 2014.

smaller in massing and less grand in detailing, it is rectangular in form like the Shadden house, with side-gables. Lacking full pediments on the gables, the Berry-Willis House does feature heavy eave returns, a recognizably Classical feature. In form, as well, they are similar. The Shadden House is two-stories and rectangular in massing with a kitchen ell of the back (making a T-shape).[112] The Berry House, also rectangular in massing with the front door on the long side (though 1.5 stories rather than 2), also has a kitchen ell of the back. Though, in the case of the Berry House, the kitchen ell creates and L-plan rather than a T-plan.[113]

A third item that influenced house design in settlement-era Oregon were plan books and builders guides. Predating plan books, builders' guides gave the builder instructions that enabled them to recreate, for example, structural details of classical orders. Two of these builders' guides that detailed Classical Revival features and elements were Asher Benjamin's *The Practical House Carpenter* (1830) and *The Practice of Architecture* (1833).[114] Plan books are well-known for having informed Classical and Gothic Revival houses, particularly their decorative elements and the Gothic Revival.

Largely associated with the Gothic Revival and Andrew Jackson Downing, plan books could provide suggestions for everything from the setting of the house to the paint color. Introduced in Oregon in the 1850s, Gothic Revival became popular, in part due to

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[112] Stephen Dow Beckham, "State of Oregon Inventory Historic Sites and Buildings: Shadden (Thomas J.) House," (Oregon State Parks, 1976), 3.

[113] O'Brien, "Yamhill County Cultural Resources Inventory: Willis/Berry Place," (Yamhill County, 1984), 1.

[114] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 200.

its accessibility: it offered distinctive elements, yet was easy to replicate thanks to pattern books and mills which could provide lumber in many sizes.[115] Several remaining settlement houses in the Willamette Valley reflect Downing's Gothic cottages. The Beeks House, a Gothic Revival house in the Forest Grove vicinity with a hall-and-parlor plan, was remodeled in 1860 by its original owner. A one-and-a-half story Gothic Revival house was added to the original 1848 one story, two room, timber-frame structure. The Gothic Revival portion of the house is of balloon frame construction, with its 1848 timber-framed predecessor forming a rear wing. The Beeks House exhibits the original 1860s paint, "one coat of Downing Yellow, with white trim and sky blue paint on the ceilings of the porches (See Figure 10)."[116]

Figure 10. The Beeks house is a typical Gothic Revival house with cross-gabled roof and decorative porch. Bernard Family c. 1910. National Register of Historic Places: Beeks House.

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[115] Gothic Revival became popular in part because it was accessible to the average builder. Moreover, the availability of wood in the Pacific Northwest made the decorative elements easy and inexpensive to make. Source: Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983): 46.

[116] Melissa Cole and Elizabeth O'Brien, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Beeks, Silas Jacob N., House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1984), 2 and 5.

Whether settlers' houses were most influenced by the settler's past home state, something they had seen or knew, the builder that constructed their house, or plan books, it is clear that certain building types arose in some areas. For example, houses with larger massing may be more common at the northern end of the Willamette Valley and Gothic Revival houses may be more common in the Salem area.[117] A local idiom can arise for a variety of reasons. These pockets of certain house types may be an expression of a group of builders or may reflect the common home state or other cultural preference of an associated group of settlers.[118]

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[117] These examples are based on research discussed in Chapter IV.

[118] Philip Dole briefly mentions local idioms in the Hugh Fields House National Register nomination. Source: Philip Dole, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Hugh Fields House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1989), 15. Dole noted that settlement era houses in Brownsville tended to have a deep, fully developed entablature and were one and a half stories tall, featuring a central entrance on the gable front.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of settlement architecture is informed on a national scale by the academic ideas of cultural diffusion and vernacular scholars, as applied to architecture. These concepts were developed by such prominent academics including Fred Kniffen and Henry Glassie. They have been applied more thoroughly in the East and Midwest than on the west coast but are relevant in the West, as well.

Cultural diffusion is an idea exemplified by Kniffen and Glassie's study, "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: A Time-Place Perspective" (1986). By looking at different log construction techniques, for example, false corner-timbering, Kniffen and Glassie were able to create a map that illustrated techniques employed as people moved through and settled various regions on the United States (See Figure 11). This building technique appeared first in New York, then in lower Michigan, and finally in upper Wisconsin:

Figure 11. This map by Fred Kniffen and Henry Glassie demonstrates the diffusion patterns of construction types in the United States. *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture,* edited by Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 175.

false corner-timbering was a method that traveled west with those who used it in construction.[119] Building types, as a physical manifestation of culture, can thus show the movement of not only people but also that of cultures, themselves.

Vernacular architecture can be most simply defined as "regional." The term vernacular, as used in this story, describes an architecture that manifests particular to its time and place; it is architecture affected by its context. As introduced by Henry Glassie, "buildings, like poems and rituals, realize culture."[120] This idea is instrumental because to examine buildings of a region requires awareness of the many factors that may have shaped them.

While prior research has been done on the diffusion of population across the United States and within the Willamette Valley based on historical census data, and studies have been written about the settlement-era building types in the Pacific Northwest, there has been little research to date on architectural identity and building form diffusion into and within the Willamette Valley. Building form diffusion into the Willamette Valley and influences of Willamette Valley settlement architecture have been hypothesized about but are largely unstudied. This section will detail the literature and prior research on settlement patterns in the Willamette Valley and architecture in the Pacific Northwest.

Architecture in the Pacific Northwest has been studied by many scholars but studied in depth only by a few. National studies of architecture do not often explore the Pacific Northwest, perhaps due the complexity of nationally relevant architectural

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[119] Fred B. Kniffen and Henry Glassie, "Building in Wood in the Eastern United States: A Time-Place Perspective," In *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture,* edited by Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 175.

[120] Henry Glassie, *Vernacular Architecture (*Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1999), 17.

histories or perhaps as a vestige of the stronger interest (and more expansive number of

cultural resources) in the East. In the foreword to *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840

to the 1950s,* Marion Dean Ross noted a gap in understanding caused in part by national

stylistic handbooks that focus more on the years that predate Oregon settlement.[121]

Virginia and Lee McAlester's *A Field Guide to American Houses* mentions Oregon: there

several Oregon houses used as examples and in distribution maps. For example, the map

detailing distribution of Classical Revival houses includes the Pacific Northwest.[122]

The main scholars who have published material specifically on settlement houses

in the Pacific Northwest are Philip Dole, Marion Dean Ross, and Rosalind Clark. Thomas

Vaughn's two-volume compendium, *Space, Style and Structure: Building in Northwest

America* of 1974*,* also includes several important settlement architecture pieces by Philip

Dole. While several chapters in this volume are relevant, particularly useful is Dole's

chapter entitled, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley."[123] Dole was also an

advisor on the second, more over-arching look at Oregon architecture: Rosalind Clark's

Oregon Style. Clark's book provides a less detailed though example-filled look at Oregon

architecture, log cabins of the 1840s to International Style office buildings of the 1940s.

Marion Dean Ross's article, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," provides a thorough

look at Oregon architecture but does not speak much about diffusion of settlement house

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[121] Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983): 11.

[122] Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred P. Knopf, 1984): 183.

[123] Philip Dole, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 78-128.

types from the Eastern United States to the Willamette Valley.[124] Meanwhile, Thomas

Garth explores the eastern antecedents of Northwest architecture in his article, "Early

Architecture in the Northwest." Garth explores both form and plan type but his study of

settlement architecture is limited: he details the architecture of the fur trade and the

missionary periods but closes his study at 1860.[125]

Of all the authors who speak to Oregon architecture, Dole is the only one who

gives any attention to the existence of typologies, or idioms, in Willamette Valley

settlement architecture. However, this was never the focus of Dole's published works.

While he noted the existence of typologies and even made guesses as to why they existed,

studies never went into more depth because this focus was not the primary goal of his

work. In *Space, Style, and Structure,* Dole attributed the rise of typologies to social

connections, saying that most pioneers came accompanied, and those who didn't, had a

connection to meet with when they arrived. According to Dole, these, "social

characteristics had two impacts on Oregon building: some tendency for sub-regions of the

Willamette Valley to take on a consistency distinct from other regions; and a pronounced

conservatism in all building--the house or barn constructed would be very like that a

grandfather or great grandfather might have built in Pennsylvania or Virginia."[126] While

he illustrates the tendency towards traditional forms, inherited through generations,

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[124] Ross's mention of eastern architecture types moving west is limited to the discussion of several individual houses and their likely origins, like the John McLoughlin House in Oregon City. Marion Dean Ross, "Architecture in Oregon, 1845-1895," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 57, no. 1 (Mar. 1956): 37, 4-64.

[125] Thomas R. Garth, Jr., "Early Architecture in the Northwest," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 38, no. 3 (July 1947), 232.

[126] Philip Dole, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 79.

Dole's articles do not go in further depth about any of the aforementioned "sub-regions," or idioms of the Willamette Valley settlement architecture.

While the dispersal of architectural types in the Willamette Valley has not been studied in depth, the dispersal of settlers has. Using primarily data from the 1850 Census, geographer William Bowen created a series of maps and illustrations that illustrate migration patterns, pioneers' origins, population centers, land use, and social connections. Although Bowen largely focuses on their origins, he does show patterns, such as the tendency of New Englanders to settle in towns like Oregon City while a majority of those from the Midwest lived in rural areas.[127]

Jesse Douglas and Dorothy Johansen are among the scholars that preceded Bowen in studies of the origins of pioneers. Douglas, a historian in the Pacific Northwest extensively published in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* and *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* in the 1950s, and Johansen, a professor of history at Reed College in the mid-twentieth century, both contributed to the knowledge about Oregon's settlers.

Douglas used census data to determine that 86.9 percent of people in the Oregon Territory were born in one of ten states: Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.[128] Douglas eliminated children from his statistics, pointing out that this caused a false representation of origins. In 1850, Oregon's population was 12,093.[129] While 2,291 Oregon territory residents in 1850 were

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[127] William A. Bowen, *The Willamette Valley: Migration and Settlement on the Oregon Frontier* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1978), 95.

[128] Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 105-107.

[129] U.S. Census Bureau, "Resident Population and Apportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives." http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/resapport/states/oregon.pdf Accessed May 2014.

from Missouri, a full 1,739 of those were dependents (children); meanwhile, of 635

Oregon territory residents born in New York, only 69 were children. Thus, there were

actually more adults from New York than Missouri.[130] Using this method, Douglas

proves that the importance of the Atlantic states is often ignored: perhaps only 26.4

percent of Oregon's population was born in the Atlantic states but a full 43.9 percent of

Oregon adults hailed from the Atlantic states.[131] As cultural diffusion--namely, the

moving of house types west--is based heavily on geographic origins and stopping places,

the misrepresentation of settlers' origins is an important concept. The Atlantic states may

have a stronger influence than supposed if looking just at settler origins without

considering the settlers' ages.

Douglas concludes, and Johansen and Sutton agree, that despite the origins of the

adults of Oregon, the Midwest was the "crucible in which the population of the Pacific

Northwest was molded."[132] As Sutton points out in *Americans Interpret the Parthenon,*

Oregonians may have been influenced by architecture they saw in the Midwest.[133] In

considering the transfer of building types, it is important to remember that, while many

spent time in the Midwest, their time there may have been brief.

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[130] Douglas later notes that 80 percent of dependents (or children) were born in what he terms "the child belt:" Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Meanwhile, 74.2 percent of adults in Oregon were from states east of this belt. Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 105 and 107.

[131] Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 107.

[132] Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 108. And, Dorothy O. Johansen, "A Working Hypothesis for the Study of Migrations," *Pacific Historical Review* 36, no. 1 (Feb. 1967): 4.

[133] Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 113.

Scholar Robert K. Sutton, the chief historian at the National Park Service since 2007, is one of the few to actually combine settlers' origins and the types of houses they built.[134] Sutton focuses on the Classical Revival, often narrowing the field to Greek Revival, the more temple-like houses of the Classical Revival set. He identifies 32 Greek Revival settlement-era residences in the Willamette Valley.[135] His study includes a look at only the settlers that built these 32 Greek Revival residences; 88 percent of whom, he says, lived in the Midwest for various lengths of time.[136] The Midwest may well have been "the crucible in which the population of the Pacific Northwest was molded," but certainly there were many more factors at play.[137] Sutton's study is limited to Greek Revival houses. However, he does look at the origins of carpenters as a whole in attempt to fill the lacking information about the builders of individual houses. His study of carpenters reveals that the Midwest may have been very influential: like many of the Oregon pioneers, 71.6% of those who identified as carpenters in Oregon in 1850 resided in the Midwest, and 50.6% lived in the Midwest for at least ten years.[138] While Sutton

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[134] National Park Service, "Robert K. Sutton selected as Chief Historian, National Park Service." August 30, 2007. http://home.nps.gov/applications/release/print.cfm?id=757 Accessed May 2014.

[135] This study has enumerated 115 houses that are Classical Revival, a subset of which can be considered Greek Revival. Sutton veers away from considering vernacular farmhouses of the early settlers to have any style references.

[136] Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 113.

[137] Namely, as Douglas wrote, there were many other factors at play, too: for example, most of the adults who settled Oregon were *not* from the Midwest but stayed there for varying lengths of time during their journey west. Jesse S. Douglas, "Origins of the Population of Oregon in 1850," *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 41, no. 2 (April 1950): 108.

[138] This number of carpenters is 148, excluding the 46 single young men in Portland and Oregon City who did not own property (they may have been part of building crews) and did not identify as carpenters 10 years later. Robert Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon* (Niwot, Colorado: University Press of Colorado, 1992), 114-115.

discusses style--his focus is Greek Revival--he does not discuss the form of houses (e.g., the height and general size) or plan.

These studies are important to this thesis because they raise the point that a settler's origin may be more complex than state of birth. The Thompson family in Brownsville exemplifies Sutton's prediction: Enoch and Augustus Thompson developed their carpenter skills while living in a number of different states. Born in South Carolina in 1808, Enoch Thompson learned the carpentry trade in Illinois as a young man. He found great demand for the skill in Chicago, Illinois, in the 1830s though moved frequently. [139] Augustus Thomson, Enoch Thompson's son, presumably developed his carpentry skills through the tutelage of his father and practice of skills while living in the Midwest. The chapters that follow build on the work of these prior scholars by exploring the factors that influenced architecture in the Willamette Valley, especially the pioneer town of Brownsville.

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[139] Linn County Museum Records folder #123: 728 Main Street; *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1163.

CHAPTER III

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A. Research Design

This thesis used a combination of primary and secondary sources to investigate

both the architecture of settlement dwellings in the Willamette Valley and the

backgrounds of their occupants. The main primary sources were the extant settlement era

houses themselves, and the census and other materials that gave clues about what

influenced their construction. Donation Land Claim records, collections of several

Brownsville pioneers, and land surveys were also consulted. The main secondary sources,

aside from those that informed the general historical background, were the secondary

research sections on settlement dwelling inventories and National Register nominations.

Useful as well were volumes such as Chapman Publishing Company's *Portrait and*

Biographical Record of Willamette Valley, which aided in establishing histories of the

owners of settlement houses in the data set.[140]

Addressing all of the research questions required mining the Oregon Historic

Sites Database for information on the settlement era houses of the Willamette Valley,

researching the original occupants of these houses, and researching other influences that

may have informed the construction of these houses at a local, region, and national level.

The case study, which focused on the town of Brownsville, Oregon, delved deeper into

these last two aspects. With this smaller study group it was possible to study the

community's history—as well as the history of the houses—in more depth. This study

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[140] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903).

responded to the second research question: How important were the geographic origins of early Brownsville settlers in shaping this particular architectural landscape pattern?

At the Willamette Valley level, the data were mapped using a Geographic Information System (in this case, ArcGIS). This enabled the viewing of many architectural characteristics and trends between settlement houses on a Valley-wide scale. This portion of the study made possible a response to the first research question: In looking at the houses of 1840-1865 in the Willamette Valley, are there visible patterns in or groupings of extant settlement-period house types? If so, what processes and influences helped shape this architectural landscape?

Brownsville's settlement-era beginnings and its large number of extant (still-standing) settlement houses make it an ideal case study to explore the research questions of this thesis. Brownsville, a Linn County town, is located in the southern Willamette Valley, 25 miles north of Eugene. Four miles east of Interstate 5 (on Oregon 228-E), Brownsville has retained a small population of 1,700 and a large number of historic houses (of which approximately 29 date to the settlement era 1840-1865).[141] Brownsville's identified historic houses, ranging in age from the 1850s to the 1920s, are joined by a handful of historic storefronts on Main Street and the historic train station to give Brownsville a founding in history that garners interest from both locals and tourists.[142]

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[141] While this study focused on houses specifically from 1840-1865, Brownsville's historic houses also include many from 1865 to the 1920s. "General Info," City of Brownsville, Oregon, accessed February 1, 2014, www.ci.brownsville.or.us

[142] Interest and appreciation can be seen in the town motto, "Historic Brownsville Welcomes You Home," and in the organization of annual events like the Pioneer Picnic, which advertise to locals and tourists alike. Brownsville is also home to the Linn County Historical Museum. This is local interest in history is reflected in a 1965 study of the Pioneer Museum and historic tradition of Brownsville: Bureau of Municipal

Brownsville was selected as a case study for several reasons. Primarily, it has a large number of extant settlement era houses (29). Furthermore, previous scholars (namely, Philip Dole and Leslie Haskin) have identified Brownsville as one location that developed what appears to be a regionally specific house type.[143] The availability of information about the development of Brownsville was also extremely useful to this project. Brownsville has long held its settlement history in high esteem, and is home to the Linn County Historical Society Museum.[144] The local interest in history has made resources readily available, including building inventory records for most of the settlement era houses. Ultimately, Brownsville made a excellent case study for this research project because it both represented the item of interest--a region in the Willamette Valley with a relatively high number of a particular settlement house type-- and provided the archival and other resource materials to explore the settlement period further. This exploration provided insights into why building subtypes, like those in Brownsville, arose in the Willamette Valley during Oregon's settlement period.

Research and Service, *A Study of the Pioneer Museum and Historic Tradition of Brownsville, Oregon,* (Eugene: University of Oregon, 1965).

[143] As previously mentioned, former architecture professor Philip Dole wrote that in Brownsville there emerged a regionally specific building type. Dole has written in multiple places about both the existence of regional building types in the Willamette Valley and the influences on settlement architecture. Philip Dole, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Hugh Fields House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1989), 15.

[144] It is possible that the strong interest in Brownsville's heritage has contributed to the large number of remaining settlement era houses. A study was even developed in the 1960s, suggesting development plans for a future Brownsville that would work closely with the town's historic resources. Bureau of Municipal Research and Service, *A Study of the Pioneer Museum and Historic Tradition of Brownsville, Oregon,* (Eugene: University of Oregon, 1965).

B. Primary Data Sources

The main primary sources used for this project included the United States Census of 1850, 1860, 1879, and 1880; historic maps including early plats of Brownsville and Sanborn First Insurance Maps for Brownsville 1884, 1888; Works Project Administration data including pioneer interviews; Donation Land Clam Records; and extant settlement houses in Brownsville.

Establishing the places of birth of settlers associated with houses in the extant settlement dwelling study group revealed that, contrary to the early prediction that similar houses meant similar origins of settlers, the story behind the particular typography in Brownsville is more complex. A settler's birthplace is one of several important facts made available by the United States Census. Particularly in the Brownsville case study, mining Census data directly informed the second research question: how important were the geographic origins of early Brownsville settlers in shaping this particular architectural landscape pattern?

Several historic maps also informed the Brownsville case study. Plats of town sections helped tell the history of Brownsville, showing which directions it grew at which stages. Although the Sanborn maps post-date the period of interest, they were useful in understanding Brownsville's development. The earliest Sanborn map available for Brownsville is from 1884, which is outside the focus of this study (1847-1870). However, the Sanborn maps provide a cursory understanding of the average house size within North Brownsville. They also hint the arrangement of main rooms and additions. This study of Sanborn maps revealed that a large percentage of dwellings in Brownsville in

1884 were modest, 1.5-story houses, rectangular in general shape with the short end on the street side. This house form is consistent with the form identified as original to many of the settlement houses in Brownsville that are still standing.

In addition, the Work Projects Administration (WPA) interviews with Oregon pioneers, published in 1941, provided first- and second-hand accounts from Oregon pioneers about their settlement in the Willamette Valley. These were found in two volumes with different titles and authors. Histories of Linn County, these volumes tell the story in narrative form, the words seemingly transcribed from the Oregon pioneers themselves, though lacking the prompting questions from the WPA. In Linn County, there were several interviewees that were of interest because they spoke specifically of Brownsville's settlement. While these interviews needed to be backed up with more evidence—memories can provide skewed information—they did open several pathways for more study and were generally found to be in accordance with other sources.

The WPA interviews of Linn County pioneers provided information about some the people of Brownsville. For example, Hugh Fields, the pioneer who built the most decorated Classical Revival house in the Brownsville region, had made something of a fortune through stock in the Woolen Mills, his 15,000 sheep, a partnership in the Brown & Blakely store, and activity in the gold fields of California.[145] This particular example provides clues as to how settlers in Brownsville made money: Fields was not the only one who made a fortune by having several simultaneous economic ventures.[146] Dreams were

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[145] Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 29.

[146] J. M. Moyer was involved in more than a dozen enterprises. While not all of these were successful, he did amass a fortune through his investment in the Brownsville Woolen Mills, the Sash and Door Manufacturer, and other Brownsville companies. *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1157-58.

big but actual outcomes were smaller: most of the pioneers did not make a fortune. Many more, however, took advantage of several money-making opportunities at a time. A settler listed as a farmer in census records may not have solely been a farmer. He may have had a small farm but also worked at a local mill. This trend alone is important to this thesis because it highlights that carpenters may or may not have listed themselves as such on the census records.[147] For example, Brownsville resident John Moyer is listed as a carpenter in the 1860 Census but has other occupations in all other Brownsville Census records. Mainly focusing on the people and not the cultural landscape, the WPA interviews provided just two small hints about the settlement dwellings. First, the interviews provide the name of the carpenter who built Tom Kirk's house (no longer standing).[148] Furthermore, Leslie Haskin, who was able to interview many of the original pioneers himself, wrote in an article, "Brownsville, Oregon," that the similarities in early houses in Brownsville were because many of these houses were worker houses for the flouring and woolen mills.[149]

Donation land claim records were used to research the Brownsville settlers. While only the first group of settlers acquired donation land claims (they were only available from 1850-1853), they helped define how Brownsville grew. Alexander Kirk, William Kirk, James Blakely, Hugh Brown, and Jonathan Keeney all had donation land claims in what is now south Brownsville. Divided from north Brownsville by the Calapooia River,

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[147] Ancestry.com. *1860 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009.

[148] Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 27.

[149] This is discussed in detail in the Findings section. Marilyn J. Nelson, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Ross-Averill House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1991), 3.

south Brownsville is defined by an expanse of flat land, where north Brownsville features several knolls and hills. Certainly, this flat land was better for farming. The south side of Brownsville still, today, dissolves into agricultural fields as one moves southward. James Blakely was the first to start platting land for the town of Brownsville, transforming sections of his donation land claim into neighborhoods (See Figure 12).[150]

The final primary source that was used extensively for this project was the group of extant settlement era houses in Brownsville. The approximately 30 settlement era houses in Brownsville were visited, photographed, and researched individually. The list of extant settlement era houses is based exclusively on the group in the Oregon Historic Sites Database. Administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, this survey, "Settlement Era Homesteads of the Willamette Valley," includes settlement era homesteads constructed between 1840 and 1865. The Oregon Historic Sites Database is updated routinely; the Settlement Era Homesteads of the Willamette Valley group were most recently resurveyed in June 2013.[151] This group of settlement properties includes 229 resources, including 57 previously recorded but now demolished resources. This thesis limited the list to "single dwelling" properties, thus containing 259 total resources and 47 demolished.[152]

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[150] The first plat of Brownsville was drawn up in 1853 by Luther White at the bequest of James Blakely. Land Conservation Commission, *Brownsville Comprehensive Plan* (Brownsville, 1982), 28.

[151] This information comes from Reconnaissance Level Survey Cover Sheet for the aforementioned Settlement Era Homesteads group and from Ian Johnson, Historian, via email.

[152] Within the Settlement Era Homesteads of the Willamette Valley group and the "single dwelling" original use / function categories selected, the Oregon Historic Sites Database finds 248 matching results. The disparity between this number and 259 is made up for by several inventory sheets that found sorted under other house names and several Brownsville houses that are within the same period but were not listed on the Database. To maintain a clear and objective house group, just those on the Database were used for research.
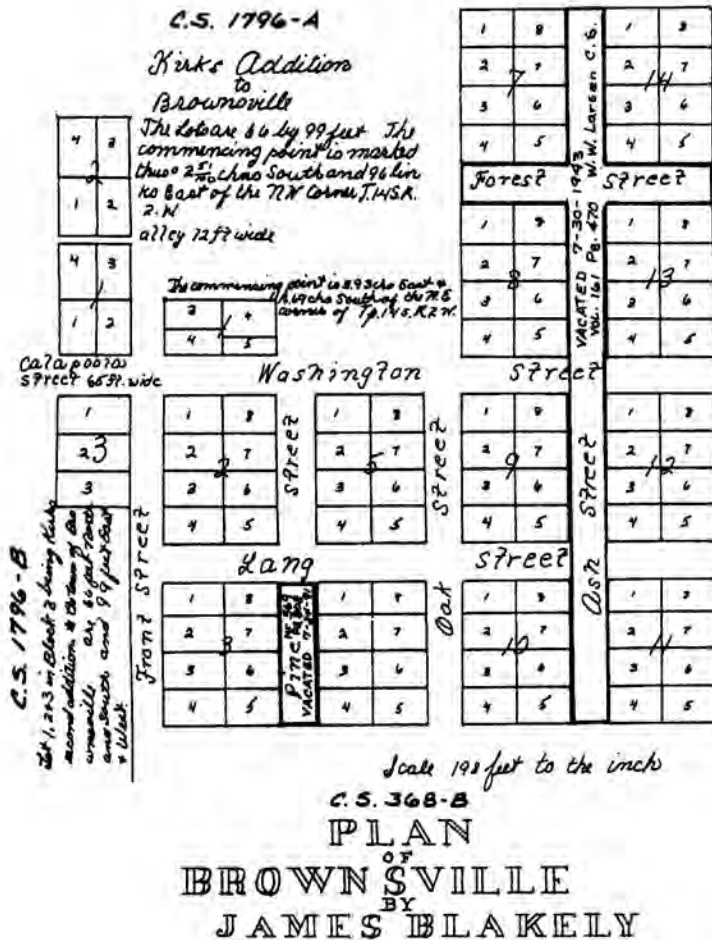
Figure 12. This 1866 plat map is an example of the plat maps developed by early settlers in the Brownsville area. James Blakely proposed several plats for Brownsville. Bureau of Land Management.,"Land Status & Cadastral Survey Records Oregon / Washington BLM."

The above-defined list of settlement era houses (and many of their attributes) was made into a spreadsheet and entered into a Geographic Information System (GIS). Putting settlement houses in a geographic context provides a useful way to explore settlement patterns. From the date settlers built their houses to what types of houses they built, mapping reveals patterns that can be difficult to ascertain in other ways. Specifically, the goal of this project was to see if pockets of house types are visible in the extant settlement houses, tying back to the first research question: are there visible

patterns in or groupings of extant settlement period house types? If so, what processes and influences helped shape this architectural landscape?

The first step in mapping the Willamette Valley settlement houses was to create a detailed spreadsheet that could be transferred to a Geographical Information System (GIS). This spreadsheet included not only the geographic coordinates of each house but also characteristics that were deemed of interest. Selecting these characteristics was also done realistically: for example, for some characteristics the data were not readily available for many of the houses. This spreadsheet went through several iterations but was finalized with the following characteristics:

- Latitude

- Longitude

- Address

- Property Names

- City

- Vicinity

- County

- Primary Construction Date (noting firm dates and "circa" dates separately)

- Secondary Construction Date (if a definite one is available)

- Eligibility for listing as determined by the Oregon Historic Sites Database

    o   ES -- eligible / significant

    o   EC -- eligible / contributing

    o   NC -- not eligible / contributing

- o   NP -- not eligible / out of period

- o   UN -- undetermined / lack of information

- o   XD -- demolished

- National Register status

- Primary Style

- Primary Siding

- Plan Type (from the Oregon Historic Sites Database)

- Gable Type (e.g. side gable, front gable, cross gable)

- Presence of eave returns

- Orientation on lot, whether the house faces the street

- Existence of a porch at the entryway

- Number of stories

- Builder (when known)

- Setting (primarily, in a town or rural)

- Home state / country of the Head of House

- Year the Head of House came to Oregon

- Home state / country of wife (where applicable)

These items were chosen based on two things: the availability of data and their ability to reveal trends in building in the Willamette Valley. Most attributes were available via the Oregon Historic Sites Database, either in building inventory notes or photographs. National Register nominations were also used when available. The ability of these characteristics to reveal other trends was also considered. For example, eave

returns hint that the house has Classical Revival characteristics. Some houses, like the

1865 J. M. Moyer House (no longer standing) exhibit both Classical Revival and Gothic

characteristics.[153] Immediately calling the house Gothic Revival would be focusing on the

Gothic porch and ignoring the fact that its eave returns and gable direction harken to

every other Classical Revival house in Brownsville. The extensiveness of the

characteristics captured on the above list hope to leave no stone unturned and to error on

the side of too much information rather than too little. Creating an exhaustive list meant

that some items researched, such as siding type, ended up having less pertinence to the

final study (the siding type was almost always horizontal board; it also poses difficulties

because it may have been replaced one or more times since the house's construction).

The Oregon Historic Sites Database and corresponding inventory sheets and

photographs were used to create this list, with supplementary information that was

acquired from Google Maps and Google Earth.[154] National Register nominations were

considered over other inventory sheets when available, as they typically include much

more in-depth research.

Finally, it must be noted that 44 of the 258 settlement houses listed in the

Database have been demolished since the advent of historic resource surveys in Oregon.

Due to the generally high level of information (including photographs) available through

the Database on these houses, the demolished properties were not eliminated from the

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[153] This house is not to be confused with the still-standing 1881 J. M. Moyer House, an Italianate house also in Brownsville. Philip Dole, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 125.

[154] Google Maps and Google Earth were used to establish the longitude and latitude of the houses based on their street address as supplied in the Database. Google Maps' Street View aided in the finding of at least one house, the Saafeld House (a Gothic Revival house in Mt. Angel), whose address was vague on the Database but was very clear upon the use of Street View.

sample set of this project. Despite their being demolished, the research on these houses was carried through in precisely the same manner as the still extant buildings, since information on the buildings remains available even after houses are demolished. Nevertheless, this study remains strict to the entire list of settlement houses in the Willamette Valley as supplied by Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. This ensured that the data were as accurate as possible since eliminating houses has the potential delete or alter patterns evident throughout the house data set.

C. Secondary Data Sources

The main secondary sources used for this project included local and county Histories and other previous studies such as academic studies by Henry Glassie and Fred Kniffen; background history of Oregon settlement (including architectural studies by Philip Dole at the regional level; local studies such as writings by Leslie Haskin; and Brownsville Museum papers that contains previous local research on the settlers in Brownsville); *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley;* and information on National Register and Inventory forms.

The first set of secondary sources that was used extensively were related histories and other related studies. These were discussed in more detail in Chapter II. These sources provided background information on several aspects of this study: the movement of Euro-Americans westward, settlement of the Willamette Valley, and architecture in the United States and Oregon. While some of these items were later disputed, they were necessary to lay the groundwork for this project.

One particular secondary source proved especially useful. The *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley* was not published until the early 1900s, but it mentions several of Brownsville's movers and shakers from the late nineteenth century.[155] The *Biographical Record* can be at times unnecessarily doting about its occupants, but it also provided important clues that fill in gaps unanswerable by Census data. The movement of several Brownsville pioneers westward is captured in the *Biographical Record,* along with their skills, motivations, and various occupations.

Secondary information on the National Register and Historic Sites Database Inventory forms informed both the Willamette Valley study and the Brownsville case study. While often duplicating data that were obtainable from easily-accessible primary sources the Census, the site history sections in the National Register and the Inventory forms also provided hints, and sometimes suggested answers, to the question: what influenced how settlers built their houses? In some cases, the secondary research in these documents was able to point out a specific main influence.[156] For example, the National Register nomination for the Jesse and Julia Harritt House reports that houses from Tennessee were the primary influence of this 1858 side-gabled Classical Revival house. This was at the preference of Julia McNary Harritt: Tennessee was her home state.[157] The Oregon Historic Sites Database and corresponding inventory sheets were also used

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[155] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903).

[156] Only one influence was mentioned in National Register nominations for the houses in Brownsville; these used the research of Leslie Haskin to suggest that the house type was driven by the need for mill worker housing in Brownsville. This is discussed in detail in the case study section.

[157] This information was attributed to oral interviews. Edward Sheehan, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Jesse and Julia Harritt House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1998), 6.

extensively in guiding the research of the Brownsville settlement era houses for the case study.

These secondary sources mainly guided research and aided in the assessment of data based on previous studies. The aforementioned primary sources make up the bulk of this study. However, secondary sources were useful in guiding research and providing clues to things that should be investigated further.

CHAPTER IV

WILLAMETTE VALLEY SETTLEMENT AND BUILDING FORMS: FINDINGS

A. Mid-Nineteenth Century Settlement Patterns

A simple map was constructed to view the extant settlement houses in the context

of all households circa 1850 in the Willamette Valley as identified by William Bowen in

his analysis of Census and survey data.[158] This set of data from 1850 was selected

because it is the only year that data on houses is available at this point in time. Bowen

used Donation Land Claim certificates, township plats, the cadastral surveys for the

United States General Land Office (GLO), and the 1850 federal Census to establish these

locations on paper; the Institute for a Sustainable Environment (at the University of

Oregon) entered these points into ArcGIS.[159] To compare the 1850 households map with

the extant settlement houses, a "heat map" was created to show the distribution of the

1850 population.[160] The dots representing extant settlement houses were placed on top of

the 1850 distribution map (See Figure 13).

It is apparent from this map that the dots, considering that the number of houses

has dwindled to 258 from 1,517, are distributed in a similar manner to the full set of

original settlement houses. To a large extent, clusters of extant

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[158] The Bowen data provides the approximate location of 1,517 settlement dwellings in the Willamette Valley in 1850. Bowen extracted his data from survey records and the 1850 Census. Bowen used this data and 1850 Census data as the basis for his book on Willamette Valley settlement. William A. Bowen, *The Willamette Valley: Migration and Settlement on the Oregon Frontier* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1978).

[159] Pacific Northwest Ecosystem Research Consortium. 2002. "1850 Dwellings." Data and documentation available at: http://www.fsl.orst.edu/pnwerc/wrb/access.html. Accessed March-April 2014.

[160] "Extant settlement houses" refer to all the houses currently listed in the Oregon Historic Sites Database's data set for the Willamette Valley Settlement group.

1850 Census Population Density
Willamette Valley, OR

N

Portland

Oregon City

Salem

0   5   10   20 Miles

Brownsville

Extant Settlement Houses
Streams
1850 Census Population Density
0.0-0.07 households
0.07 - 0.15
0.15 - 0.23
0.23 - 0.31
0.31 - 0.39
0.39 - 0.46
0.46 - 0.54
0.54 - 0.62
0.62 - 0.70

Eugene
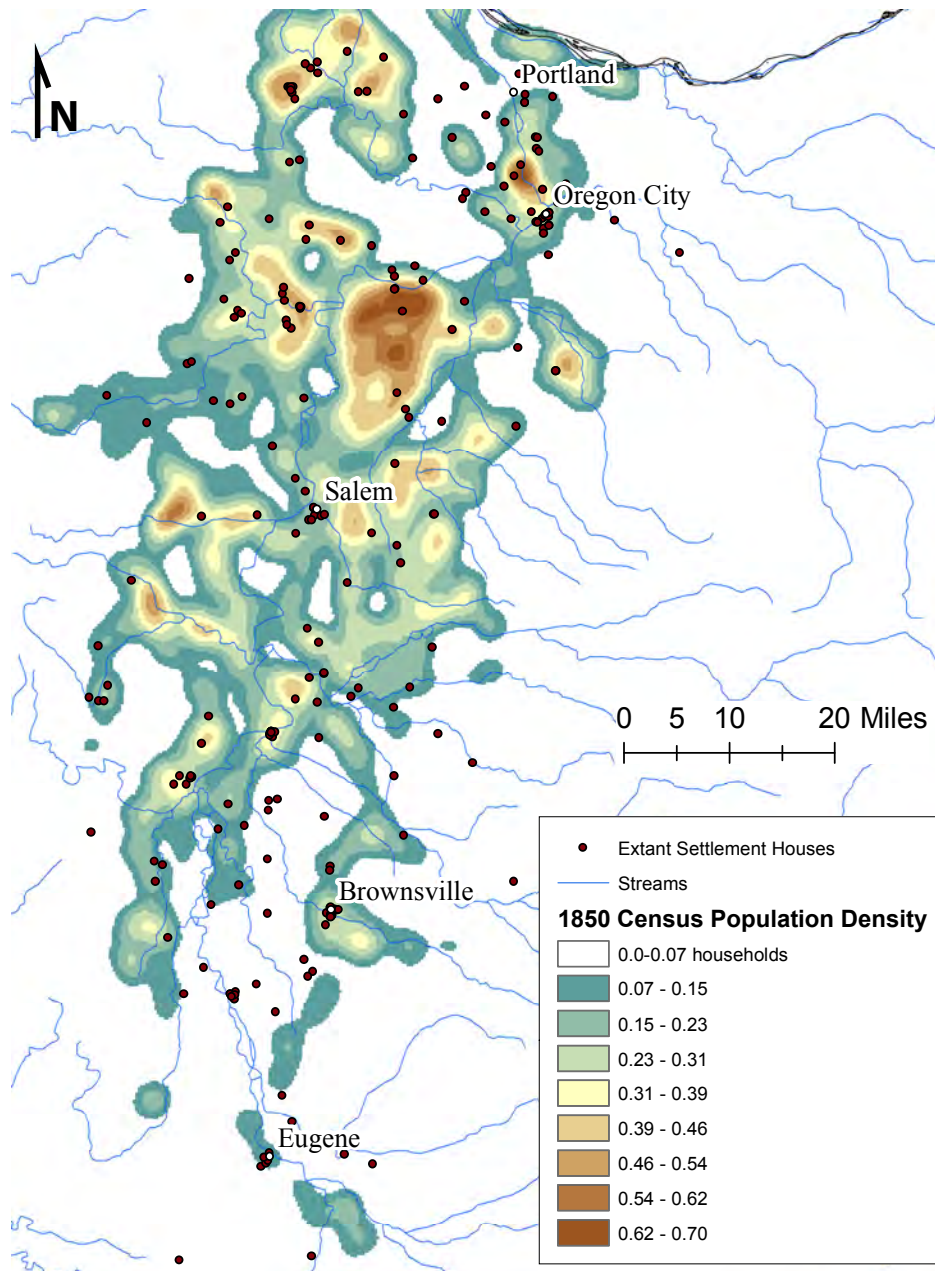
Figure 13. This map displays the 1850 house density with the extant settlement dwellings mapped on top. The dispersion of the extant settlement dwellings clearly echoes the original settlement distribution. Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, "Oregon Historic Sites Database," Oregon State Parks, http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

houses are generally found in places that had a proportionately large number of houses in the mid-nineteenth century: for example, Oregon City, a booming community in the nineteenth century heralded as "the end of the Oregon Trail" retains 21 settlement houses.[161] The extant dwelling points, like the distribution map, seem to follow waterways. The Willamette River and its tributaries are the foci of settlement. Indeed, historians have long established that most settlers took claims convenient to rivers. Waterways were routes of travel in a day when roads were scarce and rough. Waterways meant available trade, as well as social and political connections.[162]

William Bowen researched settlement patterns based on the geographic origins of early settlers. In contrast, research reported on in this thesis concentrates on mapping details about the settlement era houses, themselves, rather than just the households.[163]

At first glance, the maps generated using the data listed previously revealed little. Despite the number of extant settlement era houses being considerably less than the dwellings in 1850, the number and proximity of dots was such that a cluster of five dots is indistinguishable from a cluster of two dozen. To solve this problem, a tactic using townships as "data containers" was created. First, the map was overlaid with a township grid. Then, depending on the specific outcome desired, percentages within each township were calculated using the data that were being processed. Finally, each township was colored based on a gradient to represent the houses within its bounds.

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[161] 21 settlement era houses are extant in Oregon City, today. However, 22 are recorded in the Oregon Historic Sites Database. Thus, 22 locations are marked as settlement buildings within GIS, though the demolished one is marked thus in the attribute table.

[162] Howard McKinley Corning, *Willamette Landings: Ghost Towns of the River* (Portland, Oregon: Oregon Historical Society Press, 2004), 9.

[163] A full list of the characteristics considered for mapping in this project can be seen in Chapter III Materials and Methods, part B, Primary Data Sources.

The specifics of mapping varied by the attribute mapped. For house characteristics that used numbers, such as the year constructed and the number of stories, the average was calculated. For other characteristics, the grid was colored to convey the most common attribute within each township. The most common attribute was found by joining the township and dwelling data sheets, after which the most common attribute in each township was entered manually. This resulted in maps that portrayed specifics of house type in ways the dots alone could not. Most importantly, this technique made visible patterns in building characteristics (or revealed that no pattern is evident within the settlement house sample). In all maps there is a category akin to "none" or "null." For townships mapped as "none" or "null," either the data were unavailable to state the most common attribute or the attributes were evenly divided. For example, the township may have had the same number of Classical Revival houses as Gothic Revival. Mapping a township like this as "none" or "null" essentially removes it from the dataset so it does not falsely inform trends in building.

In recognition that the style and the type represent different aspects of any given house, characteristics that reflected both were mapped separately. The focus of this study is house types: thus gable type, plan type, and massing (as captured by number of stories) were mapped. In some cases, style and type inform each other: Gothic Revival houses are often a cross-gable type. So as to capture the style portion of the story, as well, styles were also mapped throughout the Willamette Valley.

B. Architectural Types: Implications

The Willamette Valley Maps created for this project illustrate that, just as Dole and other scholars have estimated, different sub-regions of the Willamette Valley evidence different trends in housing types. Moreover, the maps created using just extant settlement houses seem sufficient to highlight places for further study. They reveal trends that, with further study, may reveal typologies in multiple regions of the Willamette Valley. Field and archival research, as was done with this project in Brownsville, are needed to confirm trends revealed by the maps developed here. Maps shown and discussed here display the following characteristics:

- Construction Year

- Style

- Stories

- Plan Type

- Gable Direction

The map generated based on the average construction year of houses within each township revealed that earlier settlers may have stayed close to the Willamette River while later settlers branched out along the Willamette's tributaries (See Figure 14). Almost all of the townships whose houses average to 1862-1865 are located on the edges of the study area, particularly to the northwest of Salem and Portland. Further research is needed to confirm this pattern, but it is reasonable to assume that claims along the Willamette River were preferred (evidenced here as properties within one township of the Willamette River). The Willamette River was, after all, the center of commerce and a

Average Construction Year by Township
Willamette Valley, OR
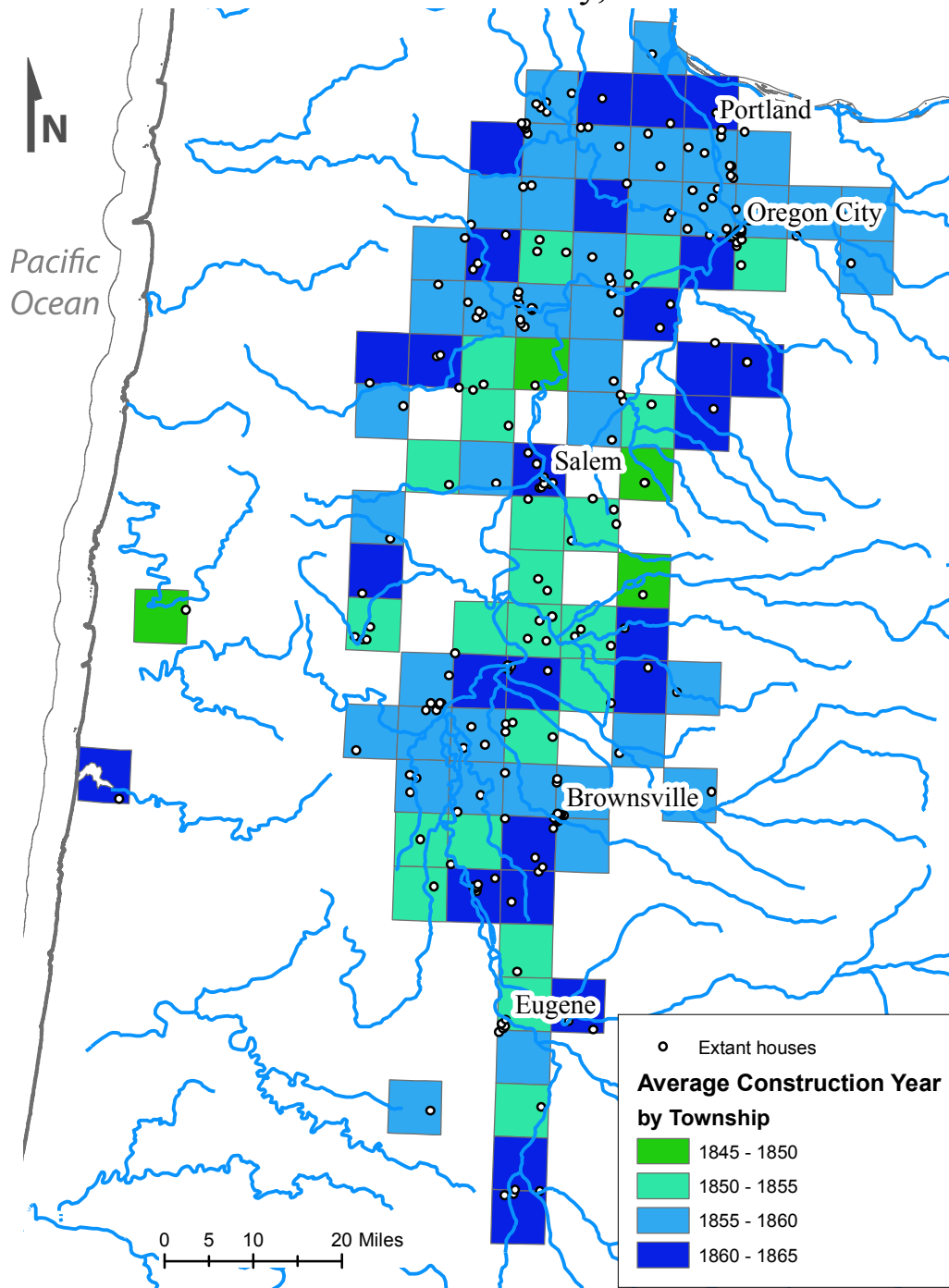
Figure 14. This map of extant settlement houses by construction year indicates that later settlers moved to the edges (especially the northwest) of the Willamette Valley while the oldest houses tend to be found near the Willamette River. Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, "Oregon Historic Sites Database," Oregon State Parks, http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

main transportation and trade route in Oregon's early settlement years.[164] As noted by historian Howard McKinley Corning, "most [of the pioneers] selected claims convenient to waterways which would furnish routes of travel, not only on social and political errands but, most of all, on trips to and from trade."[165] These findings are also in accordance with Lloyd Black's article, "Middle Willamette Valley Population Growth." Black notes that in 1841 settlement had just a few main nuclei, including French Prairie and Salem, but by 1848 the population had spread southward, and to a lesser degree eastward and westward.[166] It should be recognized that the construction dates are not necessarily representative of settlement dates, but given the usual progression of settlement house construction (log cabin, hewn log house, frame house) previously discussed, the extant houses may echo the original settlement years. For example, areas with earlier frame houses may also have had earlier log cabins.

Mapping the houses by style using the townships to show the most popular style in each region proved correct the assumption that houses were primarily Classical or Gothic Revival (See Figure 15), a fact important to context that is previously established by scholars but not previously demonstrated in map form. This technique quantified and made visible the dispersion of house styles in the settlement era. Previous scholars have identified Classical Revival as a primary style of the time. Rosalind Clark, author of *Oregon Styles*, states that, "the look or feeling of an ancient classical building was so

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[164] Howard McKinley Corning, *Willamette Landings: Ghost Towns of the River* (Portland, Oregon: Oregon Historical Society Press, 2004), 9.

[165] Howard McKinley Corning, *Willamette Landings: Ghost Towns of the River* (Portland, Oregon: Oregon Historical Society Press, 2004), 9.

[166] Lloyd D. Black, "Middle Willamette Valley Population Growth" (*Oregon Historical Quarterly* 43, no. 1, March 1942), 41.

Most Common Style by Township
Willamette Valley, OR

Most Common Style by Township

○ Extant houses

Classical Revival

Federalist
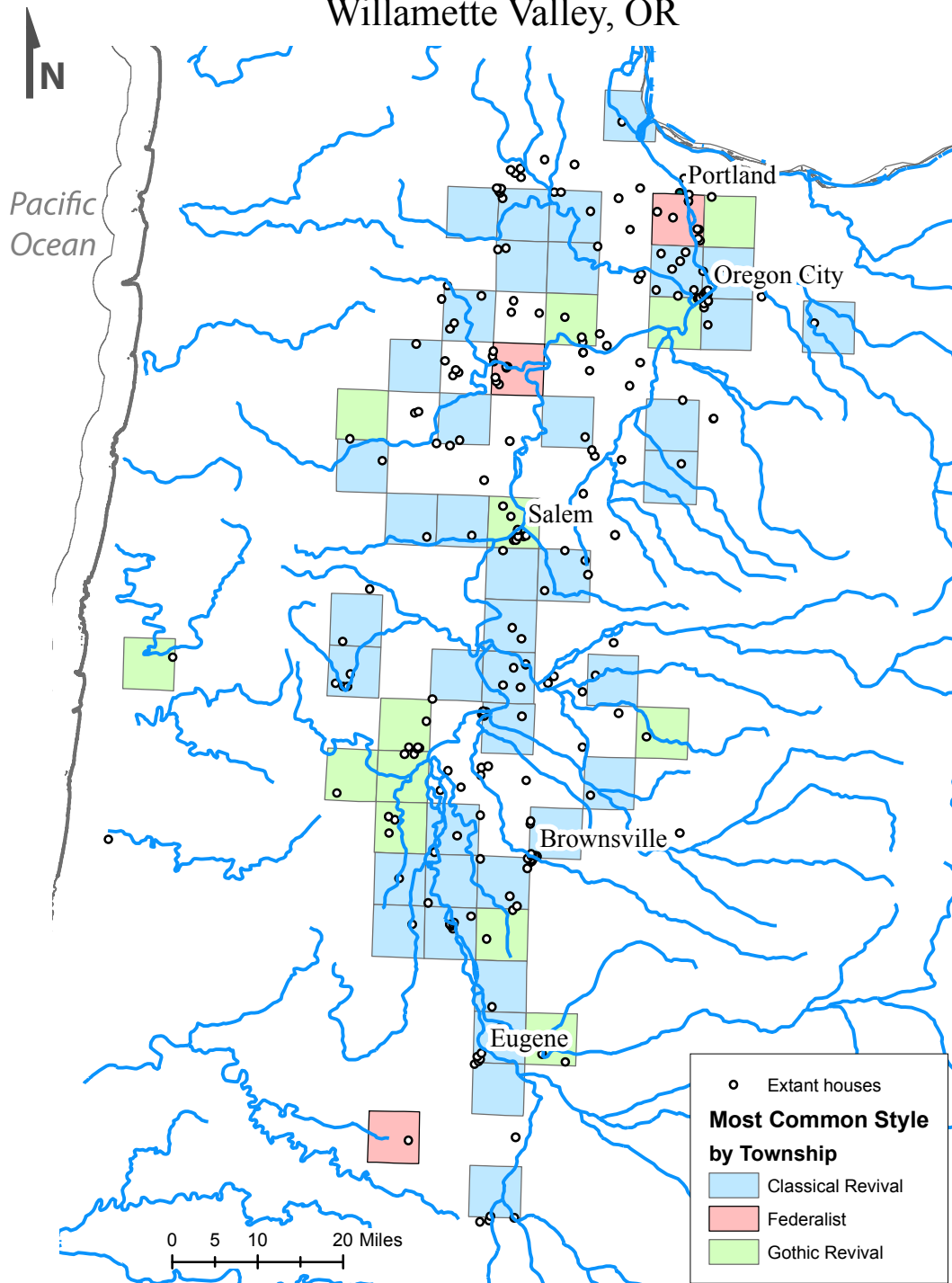
Gothic Revival

Figure 15. This map, showing the settlement era houses by style reinforces the idea that Classical Revival houses were the predominant style. It also reveals that there are many Gothic Revival houses left in the Salem area. Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, "Oregon Historic Sites Database," Oregon State Parks, http://heritageda-ta.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

much the ideal in Oregon that almost everything built between 1840 and 1865 contained at least some classical elements."[167] Mapping this in a quantitative manner revealed several things. First, the Classical Revival style is, indeed, dominant amongst settlement houses. The second most popular style is Gothic Revival. The map revealed a cluster of Gothic Revival houses in the Corvallis area, west of the Willamette River.

Due to the predominance of Classical Revival houses, mapping more specific characteristics is useful to more fully understand the dispersion of building types and characteristics in the Willamette Valley. Mapping specific characteristics of settlement houses revealed several trends and patterns. The trends in the Brownsville area were investigated further as part of the case study. Other trends that appeared suggest places for future research.

Mapping the extant settlement houses by the average number of stories found in each township revealed a clustering of 2-story buildings towards the north end of the Willamette Valley and 1-1.5-story buildings at the south end (See Figure 16). In particular, there are a large number of 2-story houses in the northwest Portland area. This may reflect the economic upturn in Portland as it became the port for ocean-going vessels.

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[167] Rosalind Clark, *Oregon Style: Architecture from 1840 to the 1950s* (Portland, Oregon: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983), 35.

Average Stories of Settlement Houses by Township
Willamette Valley, OR
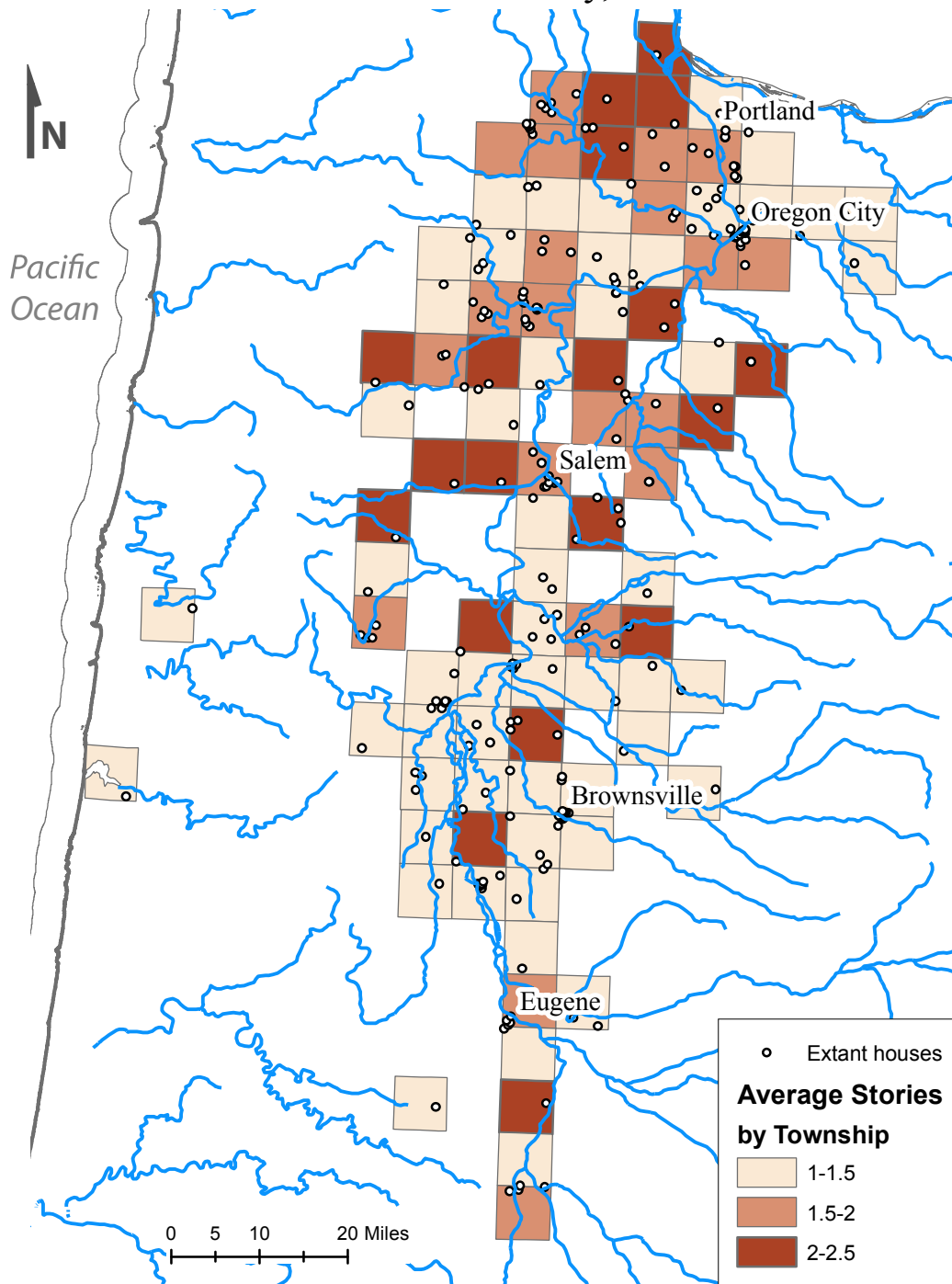
Figure 16. This map, based on the average number of stories of the settlement house group, suggested a high concentration of 2-story houses at the north end of the Willamette Valley. Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, "Oregon Historic Sites Database," Oregon State Parks, http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

It may also reflect an earlier population. As seen with the missionaries and the earlier houses built in the Federalist form, the earlier settlers may have been more apt to build larger houses as they gained access to the needed materials.[168] Within the dataset of extant houses, 50 percent of the houses built before 1850 were 2-2.5 stories, while only 23 percent of the houses built after 1860 were in this group.[169] Different places and times in the Willamette Valley had different molding factors: for example, the earliest house in the data set, Jason Lee's house, was a Methodist Parsonage, which would necessarily have different uses and shaping factors than a pioneer's house in Eugene. Furthermore, a greater number of houses in the data set fall among the more recent years of the 1840 to 1865 timeline.

The most common plan types of the remaining buildings under study were central passage, crosswing, double house, hall-parlor, and side-passage / entry (See Figure 17).[170] Among these, central passage was clearly the dominant choice. However, a cluster of side-passage / entry houses revealed themselves in the Corvallis area and in what is now eastern Portland. Of interest, too, are smaller but still visible groups of double houses just south of Corvallis and north of Albany, in the area of Jefferson (between Brownsville and Salem).[171]

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[168] The Jason Lee House and the Methodist Mission Parsonage, both part of the extant settlement dwellings data set, were both built in the Federalist style and were 2-2.5 stories in height. Source: Oregon Historic Sites Database.

[169] This was calculated using data from the Oregon Historic Sites Database.

[170] For an overview of settlement era plan types seen in the Willamette Valley, please see Chapter 1, Part C, Item b.

[171] When looking at plan type data, it must be understood that this data is not 100 percent reliable. This information was obtained through surveys and most surveyors did not enter every building they were surveying but determined the basic plan type from a brief survey of the exterior.
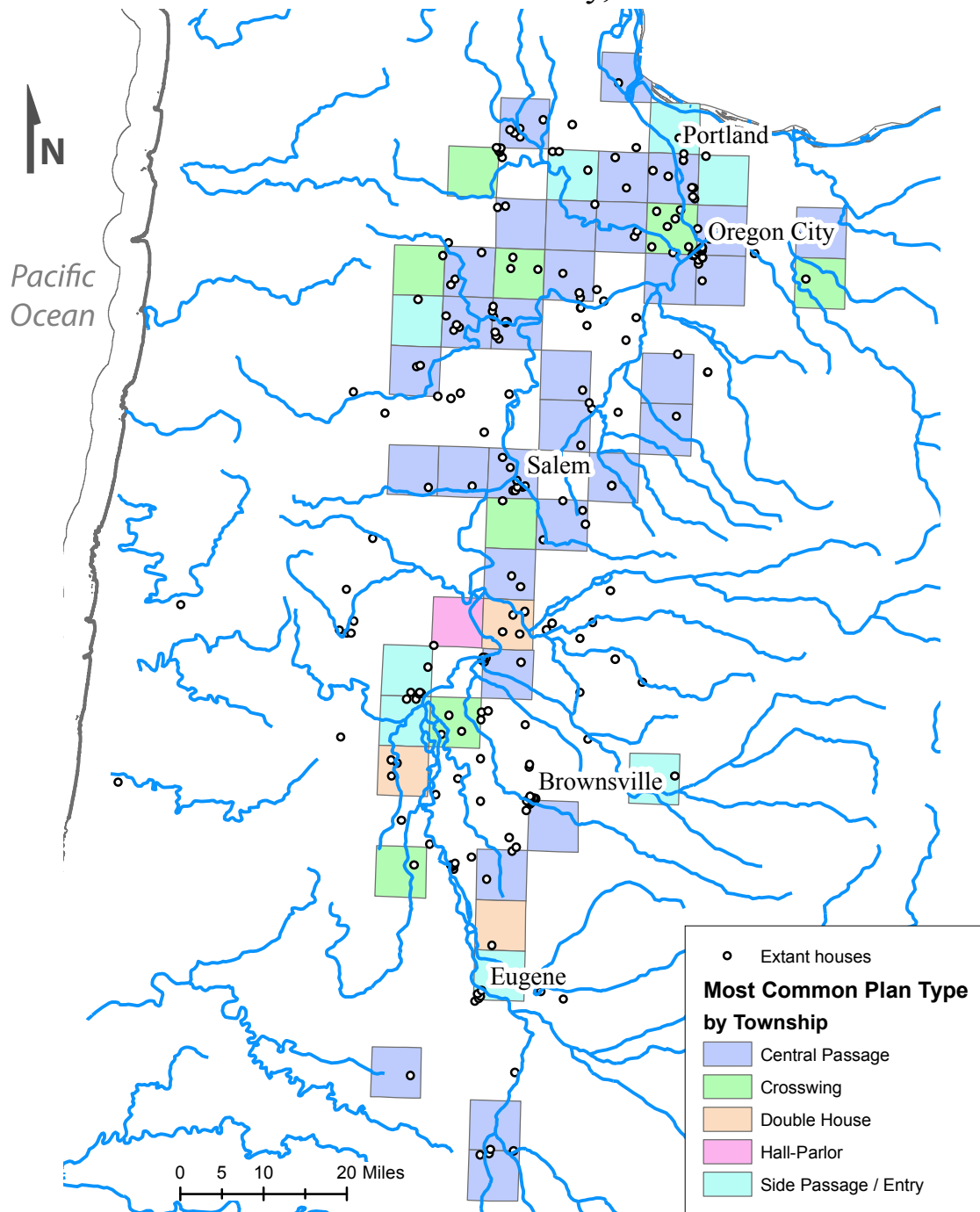
Figure 17. This map of the extant settlement houses by plan type reveals that most of the group have a central passage plan. Furthermore, there is a visible presence of double houses in the middle and southern Willamette Valley. Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, "Oregon Historic Sites Database," Oregon State Parks, http://heritageda-ta.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

Most Common Roof Type by Township
Willamette Valley, OR
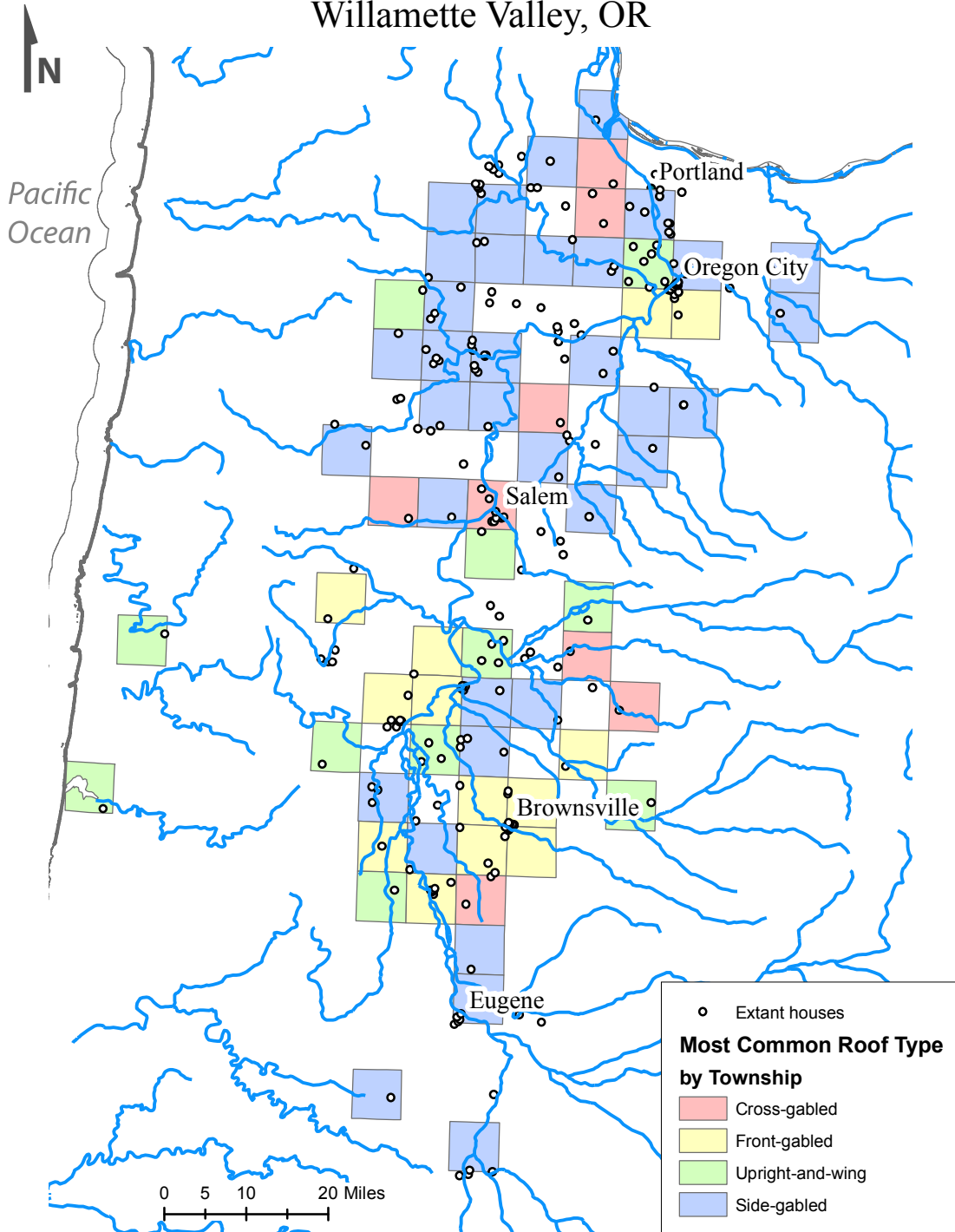
Figure 18. This map, based on the gable direction of the settlement house, reveals a cluster of front-gabled houses in the southern Willamette Valley, particularly in the Brownsville area. Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, "Oregon Historic Sites Database," Oregon State Parks, http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

The fifth settlement dwelling attribute mapped was the gable or roof type: for example, if the house had a front-facing gable (See Figure 18). The options considered were front gable, side gable, L-gable (thus a front and side gable on an L-plan house), and cross-gable. Townships with houses that either had no dominate gable direction (including houses without gable ends: hip roofs) were mapped as "none." Several things are apparent from this map. First, houses with side-gables are dominant throughout the Willamette Valley, followed closely by upright-and-wing and front gables. Cross-gables are the least common but still are the most popular gable expression in eight townships. There is a larger cluster of front-facing gabled houses in the Brownsville area. There is a smaller cluster of cross-gable houses in Salem (evidence of the Gothic Revival style preference) and west of Portland. Within the Willamette Valley settlement house group, 18.5 percent have a front-gabled roof, while 36.2 percent have a side-gabled roof.[172]

The maps created here, using data about the extant settlement houses in the Willamette Valley, aided in answering the first research question: In looking at the houses of 1840-1865 in the Willamette Valley, are there visible patterns in or groupings of extant settlement period house types? If so, what processes and influences helped shape this architectural landscape? Looking at characteristics that reveal aspects of house type, some patterns of settlement house types are visible. For example, there were a disproportionately large number of front-gabled houses in the Brownsville area and a high percentage of 2-2.5-story houses northwest of Portland. It also became apparent that, while some processes were highlighted in individual house research (Chapter I,

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[172] This calculation excluded the L-gabled houses because, while it is understood that many of these were once either a side- or front-gabled house and received additions, determining whether each house was originally a front- or side-gable was outside the range of this project. This would not alter the outcome much, however. Even if all the L-gabled houses were originally front-gabled, front and L-gabled houses still make up a smaller percentage—32 percent—than the side-gabled group.

Architectural History: Influences), while analyzing the spatial distribution of mapped

data can suggest patterns, it is inconclusive. Therefore, ideally, a research project that

combines fieldwork and archival work with this map data must be performed to draw

further conclusions. The fieldwork and archival work done in the Brownsville area for the

case study will aid in the answering of the second half of this research question,

supplying suggestions about the processes that helped shape patterns in settlement house

types.

CHAPTER V

BROWNSVILLE CASE STUDY: FINDINGS

A. Early Settlement in Brownsville

The Brownsville region has a long history that encapsulates Native American

occupants, fur trappers, missionaries, and Oregon Trail settlers. For centuries before

Euro-American exploration and settlement, the area was home to a subset of the

Kalapuya Native Americans: the Tsankupi dialect community.[173] They are known locally

as the Calapooia.[174] In the 1810s, fur trappers like Donald McKenzie explored the area.

Finally, Brownsville saw the very end of what may be described as the missionary period

(beginning in 1834, tapering off in the 1840s) with the arrival of Henry and Eliza

Spaldings and began, officially, with settlers from the Oregon Trail.[175]

The Kalapuya Indians lived in the region of Brownsville long before European

explorers traveled up the coast. The Calapooia River, which passes through Brownsville,

is named for them.[176] There were at least five subdivisions of Kalapuya in the Southern

Willamette Valley, living at the headwaters of the Willamette River, on the Middle and

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[173] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 285.

[174] Land Conservation Commission, *Brownsville Comprehensive Plan* (Brownsville, 1982), 25.

[175] Prior to the arrival of agriculture-based settlers via the Oregon Trail, many missionaries traveled to Oregon. Their task was to spread religious education amongst the Native Americans. Among others, Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 120.

[176] Kalapooya has a range of spelling variations that are all seen today, including Calapooya and Calapooia. The River is often spelled with a "C." *Oregon Archaeology* sticks with the "K" spelling. C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 285.

West forks of the McKenzie River, and at the confluence of the McKenzie and Willamette (present day Eugene). The Tsankupi dialect community occupied the Calapooia River valley, with the Mohawk and Chafan to the near south.[177] Despite these language groups, historians and local histories often refer to the tribe local to the Brownsville area as the "Calapooia."[178]

Like all Native American Tribes, the Native Americans local to the Brownsville area saw a drastic drop in population due to disease spread to the area by whites. In 1849, the region was reported to have just 60 Native Americans.[179] In the Willamette Valley as a whole the Native population is estimated to have dropped from around or over 20,000 in 1770 to 600 by the mid-1840s.[180] Radiocarbon dating of midden sites indicates that the Brownsville area had more or less continuous occupation for the past 1,200 years.[181]

As in much of the Pacific Northwest, the first Euro-Americans in the region were trappers from the United States and Canada. The missionaries followed them. Fur traders established a post near the mouth of the McKenzie River (approximately 25 miles south

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[177] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 285.

[178] These include *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town, A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest,* and the history of Brownsville as written in Brownsville's Comprehensive Plan. Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976). Also, Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992). Finally, Land Conservation Commission, *Brownsville Comprehensive Plan* (Brownsville, 1982).

[179] The number of Calapooia Indians in 1849 was recorded by Oregon Territorial Governor Joseph Lane. Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 10-11.

[180] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 287.

[181] C. Melvin Aikens, Thomas J. Connolly, and Dennis L. Jenkins, *Oregon Archaeology* (Corvallis, Oregon: Oregon State University Press, 2011), 310.

of Brownsville, in the area where Eugene is now located).[182] In fact, the McKenzie River

is named for furtrapper: Donald McKenzie is noted for having explored the Brownsville

and Eugene region in 1812 for explicitly this purpose.[183] McKenzie, an employee of

American John Jacob Astor's Pacific Fur Company, is believed to be one of the first

white men to travel into the Brownsville region. Fur trapper Duncan M. Dougall, who is

rumored to have spent several months among the local Calapooia Indians, followed

him.[184]

The first Euro-American settlers to settle in Brownsville were Alexander Kirk,

W.R. Kirk, Hugh L. Brown, Jonathan Keeney, and James Blakely, who arrived in 1846;

R.C. Finley, who arrived around the same time, operated a small sawmill six miles

upstream.[185] Brown and Blakely, who were related (Brown was Blakely's uncle), traveled

across the Oregon Trail with Keeney and Kirk in 1846 from Tennessee (See Figure 19).

Brownsville is locally recognized as having become a town in 1850, upon the building of

the first store by Blakely and Brown and the establishment of a post office.[186] The 1850s

were the beginning of a period of growth for Brownsville. The first survey to lay out a

town site was done in 1853 by Luther White, at the bequest of James Blakely; a bridge

was built over the Calapooia River in 1856 and a ditch for mill power was constructed in

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[182] Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 10.

[183] Donald McKenzie was, at the time, a resident of Astoria. Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 10.

[184] Land Conservation Commission, *Brownsville Comprehensive Plan* (Brownsville, 1982), 26.

[185] Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 17-18.

[186] Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976), 2.

Figure 19. This image of the Blakely includes their Classical Revival home (location unknown). The man on the far left is believed to be James Blakely. University of Oregon Special Collections.

1858. Also in 1858, what is now East Brownsville was laid out.[187] Brownsville continued

to grow in the 1860s: a woolen mill that would become a cornerstone of the Brownsville

economy was constructed in 1861 and North Brownsville was laid out in 1863.

Brownsville was incorporated in 1876.[188]

There was also a small missionary presence in Brownsville. A Methodist

subscription school was established in Brownsville with express interest of educating the

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[187] Luther White, at the request of James Blakely, surveyed and laid out a town site on the south side of the Calapooia River in 1853. James Blakely named the site after his uncle, Hugh Brown. The East Brownsville section was originally the City of Amelia. Land Conservation Commission, *Brownsville Comprehensive Plan* (Brownsville, 1982), 28.

[188] Land Conservation Commission, *Brownsville Comprehensive Plan* (Brownsville, 1982), 29 and title page.

Calapooia Indians and converting them to Christianity.[189] The missionary period in the

Willamette Valley, which was led by Jason Lee starting in 1834 and tapering off in the

1840s, extended to Brownsville with arrival of the Spaldings.[190] Henry and Eliza

Spalding, having survived the Whitman massacre, were invited to Brownsville in 1848 by

Hugh Brown and James Blakely (two of Brownsville's first settlers). The Spaldings had

recently disbanded their mission, known as the Spalding Mission, in southern Idaho.[191]

After recovering their daughter (named Eliza like her mother), who was among the

captives taken by the Cayuse Indians in the infamous Whitman Massacre, the Spaldings

moved to the Willamette Valley. In Brownsville they were asked to open a subscription

school for the Calapooia. The Spaldings were given a piece of land by Brown and

Blakely, made by each supplying land from their adjoining claims.[192]

Brownsville had a small local sawmill since R.C. Finley settled six miles

upstream in 1847. A flouring mill was built in 1860, a woolen mill in 1861, and a

planing mill in 1862. By 1884, Brownsville had a mill race, a woolen mill, and a planing

mill.[193] Brownsville was in a quickly-growing county: in 1850, Linn County already had

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[189] Robert H. Ruby and John A. Brown, *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of the Pacific Northwest* (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1992), 120.

[190] Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976), 30-31.

[191] The Spaldings settled on two different sites in the Lapwai Valley, moving five miles up the valley in 1838. In 1847 they fled the region following the killing of missionaries Marcus and Narcissa Whitman in Walla Walla. National Park Service, "The Spaldings Mission." http://www.nps.gov/nepe/historyculture/the-spaldings-mission.htm Accessed May 2014.

[192] The Spaldings' daughter served as an important interpreter in the release of the settlers whom the Cayuse had taken captive. Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976), 30.

[193] These are all visible on the 1884 Sanborn map for Brownsville. Source: Digital Sanborn Maps 1867-1970. Brownsville [Linn Co.]: 1884. http://sanborn.umi.com Accessed February 2014.

a population of 2,749, a number that tripled by 1860.[194] It was the woolen mill that would help the town grow. Census data prior to 1880, the woolen mill does not stand out particularly, but the 1880 census shows a huge jump in the number of citizens that identified themselves as woolen mill workers. It seems that the economy--as well as many of the early settlers--were tied to the woolen mill, though the golden years of the woolen mill weren't until the end of the nineteenth century. In 1875, the Brownsville Woolen Company was owned by J. M. Moyer, Hugh Dinwiddie, and D. P. Coshow. Thomas Kay, H. L. Brown, H. C. Powell, D. D. Dagleigh, F. F. Croft and William Cochran.[195] Notably, all of these families except Dagleigh and Croft were linked to settlement houses in the group of extant houses studied in this case study.[196]

B. Dominant Architectural Characteristics in Brownsville: 1847-1870

The Willamette Valley maps function as an important context for the Brownsville case study. They provide the distribution framework in which the architectural sub-type in Brownsville exists. The maps revealed that while Brownsville has a larger than average collection of extant settlement houses per township, it is not alone as a hot spot for a certain regional house type. As an example of a place with a local idiom, Brownsville is a useful case study in furthering knowledge about how regional building

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[194] US Bureau of the Census, "The Seventh Census of the United States: 1850," and "Population of the United States in 1860," under "Census of Population and Housing," http://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html Accessed April 2014.

[195] Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976), 27.

[196] So as not to form a slanted view of the sample group, it should be noted that not all of the houses in the data set were owned by community leaders. One, for example, was owned by a former slave, Cora Cox. Furthermore, the community was small and these leaders of the woolen mill, like most Brownsville residents, had their hands in many projects simultaneously. They were also farmers, stock raisers, merchants, and carpenters (among other things, and sometimes more than one of the above).

types arose in the Willamette Valley.

Secondary sources and field research determined a set of characteristics, in both the form and decorative categories, that are found in a majority of the Brownsville settlement era houses. These houses tend to be 1.5 stories with a centered front door on the gable end. Not uncommon is a wide frieze board, like the 12" flat frieze board seen on the gable end of the Ross-Averill House (See Figure 20).[197] They generally are rectangular in general massing. Almost all are definitively Classical Revival, nearly half have eave returns, and most have some type of porch.[198] Philip Dole says in *Space, Style, and Structure* that in the 1850s and 1860s, one-and-a-half-story houses were Brownsville's "specialty." He also noted that, "until recently extraordinary woodwork could be seen on several of the first houses." A diamond pattern is visible on the friezeboard of the now-demolished Blakely House and the Hugh Fields House featured cutouts of open tulips along the friezeboard (now replaced by aluminum siding).[199]

Figures 20 and 21. Left: The Ross-Averill House. Photo by author. Right: The Dinwiddie-Martin House. Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1983.

[197] Marilyn J. Nelson, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Ross-Averill House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1991), 3.

[198] This is based on data gathered through field research. Field research efforts were based on the Brownsville dwellings listed in the Oregon Historic Sites Database's Willamette Valley Settlement Era Dwellings group.

[199] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 112.

The earliest house that fits easily into the Brownsville house type (defined above) is the second-oldest house in the data set: the Dinwiddie-Martin House (See Figures 20 and 21). Built circa 1850 on the east side of Brownsville, the Dinwiddie-Martin House is predated only by the Kirk Log Cabin of 1847. The original owner of the Dinwiddie-Martin House was Hugh Dinwiddie, a stock raiser from Pennsylvania, who was in the Brownsville region by 1855.[200] The Dinwiddie-Martin House, recently demolished, was photographed in 1983. This photograph shows a house with multiple additions but a central, familiar form. This central part of the house is a 1.5-story, front-gabled house with central door and eave returns. It is small and rectangular in massing, with the shorter side being the front. Grantee-grantor records cast into doubt whether Hugh Dinwiddie was the original owner, but several other houses dated to the early 1850s cement the common characteristics amongst the settlement era houses in Brownsville.[201]

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[200] National Archives and Records Administration (NARA); Washington, D.C.; *Record of Appointment of Postmasters, 1832-Sept. 30, 1971*; Roll #: *106*; Archive Publication #: *M841*.

[201] Records suggest that Dinwiddie did not purchase the property until 1870. Previous research estimates that the central part of the house dates to circa 1850. The property value did, however, go up during Dinwiddie's years there. Thus it is possible that either he moved his previous house to this new location—many other settlement era houses in Brownsville were moved—or he made a substantial addition to the property. Sources: Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources and Linn County Museum Records folder #56.

Figure 22. The Hugh Brown House. Photo by author.

The Hugh Brown House, built for Brownsville's supposed namesake, was built in 1852 on the south side of Brownsville (Figure 22).[202] Hugh Leeper Brown was one of the first Euro-American settlers in the area. Born in Knox County, Tennessee around 1810, Brown traveled to Oregon in 1846 with his wife, Clarissa Browning of North Carolina, and their young family. The Browns' first dwelling was a log cabin about two miles east of Brownsville and the Hugh Brown House. Hugh Brown was a merchant and moved into town soon thereafter to be closer to the Brown & Blakely Store, the general store that he managed with his nephew, James Blakely.[203] The Hugh Brown House is a 1.5 story house of rectangular massing with the short end facing the street. It has a front-facing gable and a central front door.

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[202] Town legend has it that Brownsville was named by James Blakely for his uncle, Hugh Brown. No source, however, confirms this. Sources: Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, and Leslie Haskin, "Interview with Hugh L. Montgomery," Linn County Museum Records folder #18: 320 Blakely Avenue.

[203] Ancestry.com. *1860 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. And Linn County Museum Records folder #18: 320 Blakely Avenue.

Extensively remodeled in the 1940s, the Hugh Brown House still retains its original form.[204] Aluminum edged, single-pane windows and replacement or seconadary siding, altered window openings, and a new porch structure, all detract from the historical integrity of the house but additions are only found to the rear of the house and not to the sides. Thus the Hugh Brown House retains much of its historical form if not all of the details.

Built several years later, although among the earlier buildings of the settlement house study group, is the George C. Cooley House of 1857 (See Figure 23).[205] The Cooley House, like the Hugh Brown House, is on Blakely Avenue, south of the Calapooya River. George C. Cooley, a Virginian born in 1832, made the trip to Oregon in 1853 and began working in the general store owned by Hugh Brown and James

Blakely.[206] In 1857, Cooley married James Blakely's daughter, Harriet Blakely, and they moved onto the property of the Cooley House. The Cooley House sits on part of James Blakely's donation land claim, which was officially

Figure 23. The George Cooley House. Photo by author.

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[204] Linn County Museum Records folder #18: 320 Blakely Avenue.

[205] The Cooley House was built no later than 1857 but probably predates this year. Records suggest that the house was acquired by George C. Cooley and moved to its present location in December 1857. The Cooley notebook, referenced as the source of this information, has gone missing from the University of Oregon Cooley Collection. Cheryl Haworth and Joni Nelson, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory-- Nomination Form: 'George C. Cooley House,' " (United States Department of the Interior, 1983), 4.

[206] Joni Nelson, "Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources: 220 Blakely Avenue," (Linn County, 1983).

platted as the town of Brownsville in 1864.[207] The Cooley House fits easily into the

Brownsville Classical Revival subtype: it is a 1.5 story dwelling with a small, rectangular

form. The Cooley House has a front-facing gable and heavy eave returns and a wide

friezeboard. The front door and the inner staircase were originally central with respect to

the facade; both have been relocated to one side.[208]

It is not solely the 1850s houses in the Brownsville settlement house group that

have so many similar characteristics: there are just as many, if not more, 1860s houses

that fit in this regional subtype. An example is the circa 1859 Moyer House. John M.

Moyer was born in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, in 1829. After the death of his

father in 1848, he began to plan his trip west. Distracted by the gold mines in California,

he did not settle and purchase land in the Brownsville area until 1857. Having learned the

carpenter's trade while living in Ohio in 1848, it is possible that John Moyer played a

leading role in the construction of the Hugh Brown House in 1852, a credit given to him

in the 1903 *Portrait and Bibliographical Record.*[209] Nevertheless, Moyer settled on this

piece of land in 1857 and married Elizabeth Brown, daughter of Hugh Brown.

The Moyer House, dated to 1859, is located down Blakely Avenue from the

Cooley House and displays many of the characteristics common of this Brownsville

group. It is a 1.5 story house with a front-facing gable and front door central on the

façade. It is rectangular in form with the short end along the street. The house has seen

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[207] Linn County Museum Records folder #18: 220 Blakely Avenue. And, Cheryl Haworth and Joni Nelson, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: 'George C. Cooley House,' " (United States Department of the Interior, 1983), 4.

[208] Cheryl Haworth and Joni Nelson, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: 'George C. Cooley House,' " (United States Department of the Interior, 1983), 4.

[209] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1157-58.

many alterations, including new siding, new windows, and a rear side addition. However, its general massing and characteristics reveal its original form. The Moyers lived here until 1864; following John Moyer's purchase of the Brownsville Planing Mill from William Linville in 1863, they moved to a house across from the mill.[210]

As can be seen by the examples discussed above, a clear subtype of houses developed in Brownsville in the settlement period. The intention of this study is, after identifying the typology, to establish why such a regional subtype of houses may have arisen. Since information on specific building influences and carpenters are almost non-existent in prior studies or data sources, this thesis research had to be conducted from several angles to explore the reason for the development of regionally specific dwelling types.

C. People and Processes: Constructing Brownsville's Housing Typology

As discussed briefly in Chapter I, there are several known factors that drove settlers' ideas when they built their houses that ranged from their personal building knowledge to the memory of houses they'd seen, to the aid of local carpenters. All of these have known examples amongst the extant settlement houses in the Willamette Valley. These were previously grouped into three categories: houses that were modeled after something the settler knew or had seen before coming to Oregon, houses that were built with the knowledge of a builder, and houses that were built with the help of a plan book. The provenance, economic standing, and taste of settlers, as well as the availability

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[210] Moyer's ventures in mills, the local sash and door factory, and the bank proved extremely profitable and in 1881 the Moyers moved into an elaborate Italianate manor on Main Street that today is a hallmark of the town of Brownsville. Linn County Museum Records folder #16: 204 Blakely Avenue.

of materials drove these categories. The goal of this case study is to establish why a certain building type—1.5 story, front gabled houses--is prominent in Brownsville. This aligns with two of the main research questions of this project:

1. In looking at the houses of 1840-1865 in the Willamette Valley, are there visible patterns in or groupings of extant settlement-period house types? If so, what processes and influences helped shape this architectural landscape?

2. Brownsville appears to have a high number of a locally-specific architectural subtype, which may enable deeper investigation of the development of architectural landscapes during the Willamette Valley's settlement period. How important were the geographic origins of early Brownsville settlers in shaping this particular architectural landscape pattern?

Only a few previous researchers have mentioned the regional architectural subtype visible in Brownsville, and reasonable estimates as to why it exists are even more scant. One idea previously proposed is that these houses were built to house mill workers. Leslie Haskin is among those to posit this idea; Haskin interviewed many pioneers in the 1930s and wrote an article, "Brownsville, Oregon." Haskin's supposition was picked up in several local National Register nominations, where it is mentioned that following the construction of the flouring and woolen mills in Brownsville, "residences for workmen and managers soon sprung up about these industries."[211] Data from the 1880s does not refute this claim. The 1884 Sanborn Insurance map of the North Brownsville plat shows twenty-one 1.5 story houses (and only seven with just 1 story), the same massing as the

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[211] Nina L. Williamson, *Pioneer Stories of Oregon: WPA Interviews,* (Albany, Oregon: Early Pioneer Publications, 1984).

Ross-Averill House, though exact forms are unknown.[212] The 1880 census shows a

burgeoning population listed as mill workers, a group basically non-existent in the 1860

and 1870 censuses, illustrating that the woolen mill's predominant years post-date this

study.[213]

It is possible that the mills expanded the number of houses that fit in this

settlement house typology, but it is certain that the mills did not start the trend. This is

known for several reasons. First, the Brownsville Woolen Mills weren't built until

1861.[214] Of the 30-house study group, 11 predate the Woolen Mills. Furthermore, the

Woolen Mills had a bumpy first decade, even being forced to close in 1869, though

reopening in 1873. It was after 1873, in the last decades of the 19th century, that the mill

truly began to prosper, selling goods as far away as Portland.[215] The flour mill was a

much smaller enterprise than the woolen mill; where the town and the woolen mill were

inextricably connected economically at the end of the 19th century, the flour mill received

far less press. The flour mill, constructed on the mill race near the Woolen Mills, was not

built until 1860, and the planing mill in 1862.[216] Specific mills aside, the mill race, itself,

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[212] This is also noted in the House National Register Nomination, which agrees with the claim that this house type was for mill workers. Digital Sanborn Maps 1867-1970, Brownsville 1884. sanborn.umi Accessed March 2014. Marilyn J. Nelson, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form: Ross-Averill House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1991), 3.

[213] Ancestry.com. *1880 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

[214] Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 33.

[215] Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976), 27

[216] The earliest known mills in the area were those constructed by early settler, R.C. Finley around 6 miles upstream of Brownsville. Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 17-18. And, Margaret Standish Carey and Patricia Hoy Hainline, *Brownsville: Linn County's Oldest Town,* (Brownsville: Calapooia Publications, 1976), 27.

was not constructed until 1858. Even if mill operation began in 1858 it would have been predated by 10, or 33% of the settlement houses in the sample set.[217]

Brownsville's regional architectural type is visible through settlement era structures as early as 1850. Both circa 1850 houses in the data set, the Dinwiddie Martin House and the Sam Sawyer House, conform to Brownsville's regional architectural type. The Dinwiddie Martin House, recently demolished, was built ca. 1850. The original, 1.5 story, rectangular house has multiple additions but is clearly visible. The gable end faces the street, has a centered front door and eave returns.[218]

The Sam Sawyer House, also dated to 1850, is true to its original form: the house consists of one rectangular massing, 1.5 stories in height, with a front-facing gable, centered front door, slight eave returns, and wide frieze board (similar to the Ross-Averill House, mentioned previously) (See Figure 24). Though there are some variations, all the 1850s houses in the data set represent this Brownsville form in some

Figure 24. Sam Sawyer House. Photo by author.

[217] Digital Sanborn Maps 1867-1970, Brownsville 1884. sanborn.umi Accessed March 2014; Linn County Historical Society Records.

[218] Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, "Dinwiddie Martin House," 1.

way, with the exception of the William Cochran House.[219] The Cochran House, several

miles north of Brownsville, has received such major alterations that the original form is

hard to distinguish.[220] The Sam Sawyer House, like these others, strongly resembles a

sketch of a Brownsville house in an 1857 notebook.[221] Again, this predates the mill

activity.

The next aspect that might be explored in finding the influence of the Brownsville

architectural type is the provenance of the settlers. The idea of cultural diffusion (as

discussed in Chapter II) is founded on the idea that settlers bring their building

knowledge with them. The presence of the Pennsylvania-German barn type in Ohio is,

for example, directly linked to a migration of Pennsylvanians of German heritage to

Ohio.[222] This concept is most extreme in places where most community members are

from the same place. In Ohio there were certainly other settlers and other barn types.

Aurora, Oregon, on the other hand, took shared provenance to the extreme. This was a

cooperative community that traveled west together, and thus had common roots amongst

all its members. The community has an architectural cohesiveness so strong that it has

been called "Dutchtown," due to its clear German influences.[223]

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[219] Variations are mostly relatively small: for example, the George Cooley House conforms with the Sam Sawyer and Hugh Dinwiddie Houses in all ways but the front door, which is to the side rather than centered (though is still on the gable end).

[220] See appendix for photograph. Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, "William Cochran House."

[221] This notebook, held in the Cooley & Company Records 1850-1900 at the University of Oregon Special Collections, has gone missing. It is, however, cited in multiple resource inventories in Brownsville, by Philip Dole and others. Includes, Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, "Sam Sawyer House."

[222] Hubert Wilhelm, "The Pennsylvania-Dutch Barn in Southeastern Ohio," *Material Culture* 39, no. 1 (Spring 2007), 57.

[223] Philip Dole, "Aurora Colony Architecture: Building in a Nineteenth-Century Cooperative Society," *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 92, no. 4 (Winter 1991/1992): 377-378.

In Brownsville, Oregon, this shared identity through provenance is less clear. The 26 houses of the Brownsville settlement-era dwellings group represent settlers from no less than 11 different states. The largest known group from any state was a three-way tie: three settlers came from each of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana. The settlement houses of Brownsville seem to have resemblances that are unassociated with the settlers' states of origin. The only group larger in size to travel together across the Oregon Trail together—and even have the same state of origin--were the Kirk, Blakely, and Brown families.

As the one group of Brownsville settlers with shared provenance of Tennessee, the first group of settlers in Brownsville deserves a closer look. Alexander and William Kirk, Hugh Brown, Jonathan Keeney, James Blakely, and their families traveled across the Oregon Trail and settled in the Brownsville area in 1846.[224] The Kirks (a father and grown son), and Brown and Blakely (uncle and nephew), were all from Tennessee. The latter two were both born in Knox County, in 1810 and 1820 respectively. Jonathan Keeney, who was born in Missouri in 1827, had Tennessee connections nonetheless: his father was born in Tennessee.[225]

Tennessee was deeply involved in the Classical and Greek Revival style movements. Of course, so was the rest of the United States, but Tennessee was home to buildings designed by some of America's first trained architects. Among these architects was William Strickland (1788-1854), who designed both public and private buildings in the Greek Revival Style. The Hugh Kirkman House, a mansion designed by Strickland in

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[224] Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 17-18.

[225] Ancestry.com. *1850 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

1848, featured colonnades that mimicked a Grecian temple.[226] Scholar of Tennessee architecture, James Patrick, notes that, "throughout the nineteenth century, Tennessee's farmers maintained their piety toward Homer and Demosthenes, and Grecian architecture was as much a part of life as county seats named Sparta or Athens."[227] These "farm houses" were, however, far larger than any house in the Brownsville area. Most of these are two-story, central-passage houses, with side-facing gables; they have porticos built around the entryway that look like the pedimented ends of Greek temples.[228]

Certainly, the strong Greek Revival movement in nineteenth century Tennessee could have informed the Oregon Trail pioneers who grew up in the state. However, comparing Brownsville's modest Classical Revival houses to the Doric temple farms of Tennessee is inconclusive. Notably, large or small, these Tennessean houses completely lack the front-facing gable (instead applying a font-gabled portico to a side-gabled house) and eave returns are not seen on any of the houses in this brief study.[229]

Tennessee roots of the early settlers in Brownsville could have informed the house type that developed in this area. Both Hugh Brown and James Blakely owned houses in the study group that fit well into the regional subtype. However, there is clearly

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[226] James Patrick, *Architecture in Tennessee: 1768-1897,* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), 118 and 133.

[227] James Patrick, *Architecture in Tennessee: 1768-1897,* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), 121.

[228] Several examples: the John Kincaid II House near Fincastle, Campbell County; Belair, Davidson County; Tulip Grove, Davidson County; and the Robert L. Caruthers house in Wilson County. James Patrick, *Architecture in Tennessee: 1768-1897,* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1981), 123 and 129.

[229] Even the one-story Pillow-Bethel House in Maury County has a side-facing gable and a Doric portico added around the entryway. Gifford A. Cochran, *Grandeur in Tennessee: Classical Revival Architecture in a Pioneer State,* (New York: J.J. Augustin Publishers, 1946), 72.

more to the story. Most of the other residents of the settlement house group were not from Tennessee.

Another regional influence to consider is that of the carpenter. As seen with carpenter Charles Berry (Chapter I, Part C), who constructed the Berry and Shadden Houses, a carpenter may build multiple houses that are similar to each other.[230] In Brownsville there was not just one but several active carpenters. By 1860 there were 80 settlers in Linn County that listed themselves as carpenters; at least eight lived in Brownsville. Almost all of them were in their thirties at the time of the 1869 census, and they came from at least four states and three countries (United States, England, and Norway).[231] The first considered with scrutiny was John M. Moyer, resident of a series of three Moyer houses, the first and last of which still stand (See Figure 25).

Figure 25. John M. Moyer House. Photo by author.

John M. Moyer was born in Pennsylvania in 1829. He learned the carpentry trade while living in Ohio in 1848 and headed west shortly thereafter. According to the 1903 *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley,* he was the main carpenter for both the Hugh

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[230] Charles Berry built the Berry House and the Thomas Shadden House; the two have striking resemblances. Stephen Dow Beckham, "State of Oregon Inventory Historic Sites and Buildings: Shadden (Thomas J.) House," (Oregon State Parks, 1976), 3.

[231] Eight carpenters are listed under the Brownsville P.O. but several known residents of Brownsville fall just outside this category. Brownsville was not yet incorporated so the line is difficult to draw. Ancestry.com. *1860 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009.

Brown House in 1852 and his own house in 1857. In 1863, he purchased the Brownsville Planing Mills.[232] By the 1870 Census, his primary occupation was the Brownsville sash and door manufacturer.[233] Moyer is credited with planning and building the Italianate manor at which he spent his latter years.[234] Scholar Philip Dole, one of the few to note the typography of Brownsville, suggests the involvement of John M. Moyer in Brownsville's regional subtype. Referencing the decorative scrollwork that used to be visible on many of Brownsville's early houses, Dole says that, "these imaginative decorative strapwork cornices may have been the early work of J. M. Moyer; certainly they resembled the much later detailing of the second and present Moyer house."[235]

It is plausible that Moyer had some involvement with the development of a certain building type in Brownsville. However, if the Hugh Brown House was "almost his first undertaking," it is hard to tell if he was in the region or involved before 1852. Furthermore, in his early years in Oregon, Moyer was easily distracted. In 1855 he purchased a herd of cattle and headed for the gold mines of California. Later, during the Florence, Idaho, gold rush he tried to make money by packing rapidly across the mountains. [236] Meanwhile, other carpenters were at work in Brownsville.

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[232] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1157-58.

[233] Ancestry.com. *1870 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009.

[234] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1157-58.

[235] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 112.

[236] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1157-58.

One of the other early carpenters at work in Brownsville was Peter Kessling.[237] Peter Kessling was born in Ohio in 1832 and made the trip to Oregon in the 1850s.[238] Catherine McHargue Hume, born on her father's Brownsville area land claim in 1859, recalled in her interview with the Work Projects Administration (WPA) that the McHargue house (no longer standing), "was built by a pioneer carpenter named Peter Kessling. He built many of the first good houses in this region, when the settlers became prosperous enough, and when sawmills were started."[239] The house was constructed in 1852, which Catherine McHargue Hume remembers with certainty because it was the same year that her oldest sister, Ellen, died and her brother, George, was born. Alexander Kirk's son Lee Kirk remembered in an interview that the carpenter Peter Kessling built a house for his brother, Tom Kirk, in 1858.[240] Unfortunately no records remain of what either of these houses looked like, and Peter Kessling has not been linked to any extant houses.

The extant settlement houses certainly did not rely on the skills of just one carpenter. Not only were there many other carpenters in the Brownsville area, but some of the extant settlement house group were owned by other carpenters. This includes the circa 1860 Thompson-Cable House (See Figure 26).[241] The Thompson-Cable House has

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[237] Peter Kesling's last name is seen with several spellings: Keisline, Kesling, and Kessling.

[238] Peter Kessling lived in Miami, Indiana in 1850 and w as living in Brownsville, Oregon, by the 1860 Census. Ancestry.com. *1850 and 1860 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009.

[239] Nina L. Williamson, *Pioneer stories of Linn County, Oregon: WPA interviews, vol. 2,* (Albany, Oregon: Early Pioneer Publications, 1984), 89.

[240] Work Projects Administration, *History of Linn County,* (Albany, 1941), 27.

[241] The Thompson-Cable House is also known as the Henderson House; the Hendersons did not own the house until the twentieth century. Joni Nelson, "Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources: Henderson House," 1983.

received many additions but the original form is visible and fits easily into the Brownsville settlement house type. Modest and rectangular in massing, this main section of the Thompson-Cable House is nicely representative Brownsville's subtype of Classical Revival: a front-gabled, 1.5 story structure, it has a central front door and eave returns.

The Thompson-Cable House was the house of Augustus Thompson, who was born in Wisconsin in 1838. He crossed the plains in 1862 with his family, including his father, Enoch Thompson. Born in South Carolina in 1808, Enoch Thompson learned the carpentry trade in Illinois as a young man. He found great demand for the skill in Chicago, Illinois, in the 1830s though moved frequently.[242] According to Linn County Museum records, "it has been noted that Enoch Thompson built many of the earlier buildings in Elkhart, Indiana… and in Adel Iowa."[243] While the Thompsons did not arrive in Brownsville until the 1860s, after many of Brownsville's settlement house group was already built, their involvement in the community may have strengthened the regional architectural identity.

Figure 26. The Thompson-Cable House. Photo by author.

Records surrounding Enoch and Augustus Thompson provide a window into understanding the impacts of the carpenter community of 1860s and 1870s Brownsville. Augustus Thompson was

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[242] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Willamette Valley*, (Madison: Chapman Publishing Company, 1903), 1163.

[243] Linn County Museum Records folder #123: 728 Main Street.

clearly in contact with Brownsville's earlier carpenter and later businessman, James M. Moyer: by 1878 Augustus Thompson was one of the owners of the local sash and door factory, an operation run by Moyer.[244] Furthermore, the 1870 census reveals a cluster of carpenters living in north Brownsville, including the Thompsons and Peter Kessling (mentioned above). These carpenters are surprisingly diverse in origins though fairly similar in ages. Consecutive on the 1870 Census are four households headed by carpenters: Lucius Rice, born in Vermont in 1826; Enoch Thompson, born in South Carolina in 1807; Augustus Thompson, born in Wisconsin in 1838; and Arnold Bassett, born in New York in 1823. Peter Kessling, born in Ohio in 1829, and his wife Catherine are recorded as being part of the Bassett household. The connection between the Bassetts and Kessling is unknown, though Kessling was part of the Brownsville community through the 1860, 1870, and 1880 Census, while the Bassetts lived in Springfield, Oregon in 1860 and Halsey, Oregon by 1880.[245]

Based on the findings of this case study research, it is clear that the architectural typology influences in Brownsville and other parts of the Willamette Valley were extraordinarily complex. It has been disproven that, as previous scholars have estimated, Brownsville's regionally distinct house type arose due to either the provenance of the settlers or the need for mill worker housing. The settlers connected to the extant settlement house group were exceedingly diverse in provenance and at least a handful of the Brownsville settlement houses predated the mills. However, a recipe of settler

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[244] There were several simultaneous owners of the sash and door factory in the 1870s. Linn County Museum Records folder #123: 728 Main Street.

[245] Ancestry.com. *1860, 1870, and 1880 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009.

provenance, carpenter knowledge, and possibly a communicating group of local carpenters, may be the combined influences that led to Brownsville's unique house type.

This study of architecture in Oregon's Willamette Valley has shown that it is important to rethink the complex processes involved in cultural diffusion. While the origin, movement, and subsequent adoption of certain architectural ideas may be rooted in the migration of certain populations from particular places, their diffusion from one place to another is often shaped by a variety of different factors.

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The extant Willamette Valley settlement era houses tell an important story about settlement in Oregon that becomes less clear with each house that is demolished. According to research done by Restore Oregon, only five percent of historic houses and homesteads that existed in 1865 are still standing. Just a few months before this thesis was completed, landmark status was removed from the historic Carman House allowing the owners to proceed with demolition. Possibly the only house in Lake Oswego that dates back to the federal Donation Land Claim Act, according to newspaper accounts, the Carman House has fallen into disrepair in recent years.[246]

These houses do not just tell the story not only of how and where the pioneers settled in the Willamette Valley. Through architectural expression they show how cultural knowledge moves, is transferred, combines with other cultures, and adjusts to the surroundings. In defining vernacular architecture, Henry Glassie stated that, "buildings, like poems, realize culture."[247] Buildings and cultures alike also realize many other things. Realizing rain, buildings may develop steeper roofs to shed the water and porches to dry off occupants who come and go. Any builder must take into account cultural, economic, and environmental needs. They are affected consciously by what carpentry skills they have. They may be affected more subconsciously by their own ideals and standards, not to mention those of their community.

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[246] Kara Hansen, "Carman House poised to lose historic landmark status," *Portland Tribune* (Portland, OR), December 26, 2013.

[247] Henry Glassie, *Vernacular Architecture (*Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1999), 17.

This thesis set out to explore two research questions:

1. In looking at the houses of 1840-1865 in the Willamette Valley, are there visible patterns in or groupings of extant settlement-period house types? If so, what processes and influences helped shape this architectural landscape?

2. Brownsville appears to have a high number of a locally-specific architectural subtype, which may enable deeper investigation of the development of architectural landscapes during the Willamette Valley's settlement period. How important were the geographic origins of early Brownsville settlers in shaping this particular architectural landscape pattern?

The first research question was considered through comprehensive mapping and research of settlement throughout the Willamette Valley. Mapping the settlement house group enumerated in the Oregon Historic Sites Database based on a variety of house characteristics made visible some trends. One of these trends visible today was smaller house sizes at the southern end of the Willamette Valley, particularly around Brownsville, where nearly every house was 1.5 stories. In the north Portland region the average house size was larger: the average was between 2 and 2.5 stories. Further study in the field and with archival materials is needed to confirm whether patterns of extant houses reflect patterns of the original settlement architectural landscape. However, these maps provide clues of where to look and what to look for: a cluster of cross-gabled Gothic Revival houses in the Salem area, for example.

As discussed in preceding chapters, many of the processes that could have shaped these patterns were suggested in prior studies by other scholars. A study of the process of cultural diffusion highlighted the tendency of people to bring with them the building knowledge of their home state or country as the migrated west. For some settlement houses, the supposed main influence was documented. For example, the 1858 Sam Brown House, a two-story Classical Revival dwelling in Marion County, was designed to the specifications of Sam Brown's wife, Elizabeth Brown, who based her ideas on a Southern house she remembered.[248] The William L. Holmes House is said to be modeled on Holmes' Tennessee residence.[249] The Beeks House strongly reflects Gothic Revival plan books, down to the original paint color choices.[250]

The outcome of research needed to answer the second research question enabled a deeper look into the influences of settlement houses through the lens of a case study. Secondary sources and field research revealed that a regional subtype of Classical Revival houses existed in Brownsville. Generally 1.5 stories in height, this house group also tends to be rectangular in form and have front-facing gables with front doors centered on the gable end. Many of them have eave returns and sources suggest that until recently decorative woodwork verging on the Classical Revival "egg and dart" motif was visible on the friezeboards of several of Brownsville's earliest houses.[251] The

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[248] Paul Hartwig, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Sam Brown House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1974), 2.

[249] Paul Hartwig, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: 'Rose Farm,' " (United States Department of the Interior, 1974), 4.

[250] Melissa Cole and Elizabeth O'Brien, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form: Beeks, Silas Jacob N., House," (United States Department of the Interior, 1984), 2 and 5.

[251] Philip Dole, "Buildings and Gardens," in *Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America,* edited by Thomas Vaughan (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1974), 112.

identification of this subtype in Brownsville and the research of its roots directly informs the larger distribution patterns of the Willamette Valley.

With the background study of cultural diffusion and awareness that many settlement houses were heavily influenced by the provenance of the settlers, it was initially anticipated that Brownsville's residents would have originated in the same geographic location. However, archival research showed that while the first group of settlers, a handful of families from Tennessee, had shared geographic origins, the pattern stopped there: no connections previous to migration were established between this early group and later settlers in the Brownsville region. Furthermore, although others have supposed the similarity of building types in Brownsville may have been driven by the need for mill worker housing, this hypothesis was found to be unlikely since as many of the houses in question were built prior to the existence of Brownsville's main mills.

Archival research provided several clues as to why the similar house type may have arisen in Brownsville including important factors such as the common provenance of the first settlers and the presence of a strong carpenter community there. But many other factors also helped shape the architectural landscape in Brownsville. The story is, therefore, far more complex than the provenance of settlers. There may have been several influential carpenters in Brownsville's early days. John M. Moyer may have had something to do with the decorative friezeboards and Peter Kessling is credited as the carpenter for several early Brownsville houses. By 1870 there seems to have been a carpenter community in Brownsville; five carpenters lived adjacent to each other and they must have shared some knowledge, if not construction jobs, with each other.

Fred Kniffen suggests in his article, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," that the earliest settlers in an area are most important. "Initial occupance," according to Kniffen, "is the base of reference for all subsequent change."[252] This initial imprint—perhaps the small group Tennesseans that first settled near the Calapooya River, or one or more of the early influential carpenters in the area—provided an important foundation for understanding the various influences on Willamette Valley architecture. However, there was more than one large shaping factor in Brownsville that began and perpetuated this settlement era house type. No matter where it began, lack of similar geographic origins amongst the house owners means that it was carpenters and neighbors that propagated this region subtype. The subtype may also have been affected by where the settlers lived prior to Oregon besides their state of birth, recognizing that many stayed for a decade or more in the Midwest before coming to Oregon. Activity in mills, particularly the Brownsville Woolen Mill, may have increased the need for modest housing amongst mill workers. In the end, it is not the community from which the house types came that is most important: it is the community in which they grew and became something new.

The findings here should be helpful to the further study of any typology in the Willamette Valley and even, perhaps, beyond. While it is tempting to see architecture as purely representative of a certain group of people, it is clear that in Brownsville, Oregon, this material culture traveled beyond its original community. It may have begun with one group of people, but it was propagated by others. No doubt the architectural type as seen in Brownsville grew and changed in response to the myriad influences. It was not one

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[252] Fred B. Kniffen, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," In *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture,* edited by Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 5.

carpenter or even one group of settlers that determined Brownsville's future architectural typology. Field and archival research spanning the Willamette Valley, the Oregon Trail, and beyond, are necessary to begin to understand an architectural typology in the Oregon Territory. However, even after this thorough study, it is difficult to pin down precise factors influencing various typologies conclusive evidence of influences may be forever elusive. Architectural landscapes are far more complex than they may seem at first glance—even if, (and perhaps especially), the architecture shows strong trends in type characteristics.

Fred Kniffen wrote as introduction to his study of folk housing that in America, settlement geography has failed to became as well-accepted as it is in Europe. It has been suggested that this may be due to the brevity of the United States' historical timespan and concern that there is so little to study that there will be no results. Kniffen replied that, "…these doubts and reservations are groundless; [and] more, that the problems, fruits, and pleasures of research in this field are such as to reward the most demanding among us."[253]

This study proves that Kniffen was right: despite the comparatively short history of the United States, there is a plethora of material culture, and the study of architectural landscapes is so complex that it may open up more questions than it answers. Careful study of primary and secondary sources, with attention to influences supposed by previous scholars and a willingness to discover new influences begins to outline the development of an architectural subtype in settlement-era Brownsville, Oregon. The story

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[253] Fred B. Kniffen, "Folk Housing: Key to Diffusion," In *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture,* edited by Dell Upton and John Michael Vlach (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 3-4.

involves settlers and their origins, economic opportunity, availability of various materials, and the relationships between community members. The ending is a settlement house type that belongs solely to Brownsville. It could not have existed in the way it does without each of these steps.

APPENDIX A

DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. Cultural Diffusion—the transference and diffusion of culture (here, architecture) across geographic space via migration and sharing knowledge.

2. Form [building form]—the massing of the structure, as defined by its plan type and general proportions.

3. Style—the aspect of a house that transforms it from basic shelter to a culturally relevant item.

4. Type [building type]—a building type is defined by a number of characteristics, including form, general massing, basic plan, and possibly details.

5. Vernacular—as applies to architecture: a building that is specific to and shaped by the region in which it is located. Often, a regional adaptation of a national style or form type.

LIST OF SETTLEMENT HOUSES STUDIED

This is a complete list of houses from the Oregon Historic Sites Database within the Willamette Valley Settlements group and the "single dwelling" original use. All of these houses were used in the creation of GIS maps for this study; Inventory forms throughout the Valley were used to obtain data about each house, and most National Register forms Valley-wide were mined for information about settlers and building influences.

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. "Oregon Historic Sites Database." Oregon State Parks. http://heritagedata.prd.state.or.us/historic/index.cfm?do=v.dsp_main (accessed May 2014).

Address	Property Name	City
37950 Scravel Hill Rd	Baber, Granville H, House	Albany
326 Washington St SW	Boggs House	Albany
538 2nd Ave SW	Crawford, John, House	Albany
240 4th Ave SE	Crawford, John, House 2	Albany
414 12th Ave SW	Lamberty House	Albany
39123 Mason Rd	Miler, Jacob L, House	Albany
518 2nd Ave SW	Monteith, Thomas & Walter, House	Albany
Lebanon-Albany Rd	Propst, John W, House 1	Albany
820 8th Ave SW	Rohrbough House	Albany
528 4th Ave SW	Stark House	Albany
725 6th Ave SW	Zuell House	Albany
30021 Tangent Dr	Hamilton, Joseph, Farm Group	Albany vcty
25500 S Hwy 99W	McKee, Anna, House	Amity
12900 Salt Creek Rd SW	Sanders, John Riley, House	Amity
Bethel Rd	Allen, Solomon, House	Amity vcty
9308 Silver Falls Hwy SE	[House]	Aumsville
20755 Case Rd NE	Case, William, House	Aurora

14643 Ehlen Rd NE	Giesey House	Aurora
8405 SW Creekside Pl	Fanno, Augustus, Farm House	Beaverton
20650 SW Kinnaman Rd	Masters, Andrew Jackson, House	Beaverton
14525 SW Walker Rd	Old Meadow Farm	Beaverton
806 Bishop Way	[House]	Brownsville
803 Kirk Ave	[House]	Brownsville
204 E Blakely Ave	[House]	Brownsville
623 Washburn St	[House]	Brownsville
704 Oak St	[House]	Brownsville
223 Holloway Heights	[House]	Brownsville
34115 Tub Run Rd	Bets, Paul, House	Brownsville
28485 Brownsville Rd	Cochran, William, House	Brownsville
220 E Blakely Ave	Cooley, George C, House	Brownsville
401 Washburn St	Cooley, Jim & Ethel, House	Brownsville
608 Oak St	Coshow, O P, House 1	Brownsville
34840 Lake Creek Dr	Cox, Cora Anne, House (Former Slave)	Brownsville
36176 Holloway Heights	Fields, Hugh, House	Brownsville
729 Main St	Henderson House	Brownsville
217 Bishop Way	Kirk Log Cabin (House)	Brownsville
33573 Bond Butte Dr	Overton, George, House	Brownsville
105 Stannard Ave	Paden, Dr, House	Brownsville
420 Averill St	Ross-Averill House	Brownsville
613 Washburn St	Sawyer, Sam, House	Brownsville
615 Washburn St	Sawyer, Sam, House 2	Brownsville
229 Spaulding Ave	Simons, David, House	Brownsville
29682 Brownsville Rd	Sperry, William, House	Brownsville
628 Main St	Stone-Starr House	Brownsville
503 Spaulding Ave	Worlsey House	Brownsville
29419 Brownsville Road	Hiram Powell House	Brownsville vcty
2372 Butte St NE	Aubichon, Alexis, House	Butteville
1190 NW Shelton Rd	Wilson, Carl, House	Carlton
9315 NW Meadowlake Rd	[House]	Carlton vcty
County 212 Rd	Rowland-Sappington House	Carlton vcty
17123 SE 82nd Dr	Cranfield, Isom, House	Clackamas
91032 S Willamette St	Pollard, Zacariah, House	Coburg
5050 NW Cornelius-Schefflin Rd	Herbert, Warren, House	Cornelius
602 NW 4th St	Caton, Jesse H, House	Corvallis
406 NW 6th St	Biddle, Benjamin R., House	Corvallis
29768 Buchanan Rd	Buchanan, Robert L, Farm	Corvallis
600 NW 7th St	Gaylord, Charles, House	Corvallis
641 NW 4th St	Gorman-Polly House	Corvallis
3701 SW Western Blvd	Horning, F A, House	Corvallis
2856 NW Van Buren Ave	McLagan, William & Sabra, House	Corvallis
830 SW 8th St	Osburn, John M, House	Corvallis
8104 NW Arboretum Rd	Read, Thomas, House	Corvallis

26232 Greenberry Rd	Starr, William & Phoebe, House	Corvallis
26250 Finley Refuge Rd	Fiechter, John, House	Corvallis vcty
77775 Dugan Ln	Chapin, James, House	Cottage Grove
2150 Hillside Dr	Cooley, Alexander, House	Cottage Grove
32481 Howard Lp	Cooley, John, House	Cottage Grove
78061 Mosby Ranch Rd	Mosby, David, House	Cottage Grove
34121 E Cloverdale Rd	Petty House	Creswell
10975 Rickreall Rd	Boyle, James, House	Dallas
17040 Gardner Rd	Burns Cabin / House	Dallas
8390 Blanchard Rd	Jackson, John, House	Dallas vcty
9701 SE Lafayette Hwy	Baxter, C O, House & Farm	Dayton
527 Church St	Diehl-Seitters House	Dayton
600 Ferry St	Palmer, Joel, House	Dayton
404 Main St	Smith, Andrew, House	Dayton
306 SE 5th St	Smith, Andrew, House	Dayton
8845 SE Lafayette Hwy	Carter, James, House	Dayton vcty
4900 SE Lafayette Hwy	Fletcher, Francis, House	Dayton vcty
6460 SE Thompson Lane	Goodrich, Carmi, House	Dayton vcty
Highline & County 32 Rd	Lewis, Benjamin F, House	Dayton vcty
Hwy 221	Matheny-Williamson House	Dayton vcty
22750 Hwy 99	Hagey, Levi, House	Dundee
28383 SE Judd Rd	Brackett-Judd-Gerber House	Eagle Creek
29931 SE Hwy 211	Burnett, Josiah & Lucy, House	Eagle Creek
89719 Armitage Rd	Armitage, George, House	Eugene
856 Lincoln St	Bristow House	Eugene
170 E 12th Ave	Christian, Daniel & Catherine, House	Eugene
260 High St	Henderson House	Eugene
89205 Old Coburg Rd	Landes, Abraham & Amanda House	Eugene
1579 Olive St	Mansell, William, House	Eugene
2050 Madison St	Masterson, William A, House	Eugene
82782 Territorial Hwy	Zumwalt, David, House & Barn	Eugene vcty
1706 22nd Ave	[House]	Forest Grove
2117 A St	Blank, Stephen & Parthena M, House	Forest Grove
3081 NW Sunset Dr	Brown, Alvin Clark, House	Forest Grove
1604 Birch St	Hines, Thomas M & Mary Buckingham, House	Forest Grove
2142 College Way	Marsh, Dr. Sidney Harper, House	Forest Grove
Schefflin Rd	Porter, William, House	Forest Grove
2011 18th Ave	Smith-Scholfield House	Forest Grove
3869 NW Martin Rd	Beeks, Silas Jacob N, House	Forest Grove vcty
4560 NW Visitation Rd	Black, Henry, House & Farm	Forest Grove vcty
686 S Elm St	Smith, Alvin T, House	Forest Grove vcty
13855 SW Spring Hill Rd	Hill, Almoran & Sarah, House	Gaston vcty
40092 SW Nelson Dr	Murray House	Gaston vcty
12878 Portland Rd NE	Brown, Sam, House	Gervais
11397 Howell Prairie Rd NE	[House]	Gervais vcty
10602 Howell Prairie Rd	Parker, William, House	Gervais vcty

18109 SE Webster Rd	[House]	Gladstone
450 Kesling St	[House]	Harrisburg
859 S 6th St	Hoult, Enoch, House	Harrisburg
265 7th St	Humphrey, Alfred, House	Harrisburg
195 2nd St	Irwin, Macy, House	Harrisburg
31273 Diamond Hill Rd	McDaniel, Jacob, House	Harrisburg
780 Diamond Hill Rd	Schooling, J P, House	Harrisburg
32344 Priceboro Rd	Sommerville, John, House	Harrisburg
225 N 2nd St	Stephen, Church, House	Harrisburg
720 Smith St	Summerville, Alex, House	Harrisburg
205 S 4th St	Waters, Abner, House	Harrisburg
34050 Belts Dr	Wigle, Abraham & Mary, House	Harrisburg
690 E 3rd St	Hearker-White House	Hasley
28616 Potter Rd	Porter, James A & Nancy A, House	Hasley
432 SE 7th Ave	[House]	Hillsboro
24665 NW Groveland Dr	Chambers, James & Mary, House	Hillsboro
1905 SE Oak St	Larson, Elmer & Virginia, House	Hillsboro
31705 NW Scotch Church Rd	[House]	Hillsboro vcty
13551 Stauffer Rd NE	Stauffer, John, House and Barn	Hubbard
5705 Hwy 22	Brunk, Harrison, House	Independence vcty
38076 Densmore Rd	[House]	Jefferson
38603 Kelly Rd	Officer House	Jefferson
728 Ankeny Hill Rd SE	Anderson, James Mechlin, House	Jefferson
114 Main St	Conser, Jacob, House	Jefferson
204 Main St	Terhune, Jabez V, House	Jefferson
13600 Jefferson 99E Hwy SE	Campbell, Hamilton, House	Jefferson vcty
96130 Hulbert Lake Rd	Zumwalt, Adam F, Farmstead	Junction City vcty
24008 Maxfield Creek Rd	Maxfield, H T, House	Kings Valley
18865 SW Scholls Ferry Rd	Kindt, Peter, House	Kinton
35578 E Lacomb Rd	Hassler, James & Rebecca, House	Lacomb
3200 SE Lafayette Hwy	Cook, Amos, House	Lafayette
416 6th St	Scott, Lemuel, House	Lafayette
3811 SW Carman Dr	Carman, Waters, Farm	Lake Oswego
880 Bickner St	Collard, F A, House	Lake Oswego
250 SW Stampher Rd	Tryon, Socrates H, House	Lake Oswego
18451 SW Stafford Rd	Shipley-Cook Farmstead	Lake Oswego vcty
32184 Sand Ridge Rd	Benjamin-Gorman House	Lebanon
34279 Hwy 20	Moist, Joseph, House	Lebanon
34191 Brewster Rd	Angell-Brewster House	Lebanon vcty
Hwy 99W	Keesee House	Lewisburg
12561 S Liberal Way	Eudey-Scott, Thomazine, Farm	Liberal
835 SW Ashwood	[House]	McMinnville
705 NW Birch St	[House]	McMinnville
540 E 1st St	[House]	McMinnville

17670 SW Oldsville Rd	Baker, Andrew J, House	McMinnville
17000 SW Oldsville Rd	Olds, George W & Nancy Ellen, House	McMinnville
11105 NW Baker Creek Rd	Shadden, Thomas Jefferson, House & DLC	McMinnville
17965 NW Willis Rd	Berry, Charles & Rebecca, House	McMinnville vcty
2510 NE Conser Rd	Nofziger, Steve, House	Millersburg
2515 SE Lake Rd	Failing, Henry, Pioneer House	Milwaukie
4717 SE Jennings Ave	Jennings-Boardman House	Milwaukie
3235 SE Harrison Street	Shindler, William, House	Milwaukie
3737 SE Adams St	Wise, George, House	Milwaukie
10320 S Barnards Rd	Currins-Spahr, House	Molalla
616 Molalla Ave	Dibble, Horace L & Julia Ann, House	Molalla
625 Metzler Ave	Vonder Ahe, Fred & Marie Louise, House	Molalla
9912 Wildcat Rd	Albright, Daniel, Farm Group	Molalla vcty
26100 Hwy 99W	Starr House	Monroe
Coon Rd	Belknap, Ransom A, House	Monroe vcty
195 College St	Saalfeld House	Mt Angel
4000 Portland Rd	Brutscher House	Newberg
33125 NE Wilsonville Rd	McKinley, Archibald & Sarah Julia, House	Newberg
N Valley Rd	Conlee, John, House	Newberg vcty
Wilsonville Rd	Doration Farm	Newberg vcty
S Old Valley Rd	Root, Sidney & Elizabeth, House	Newberg vcty
19131 S Leland Rd	Ainsworth, Captain John C, House	Oregon City
902 6th St	Bacon, J M, House	Oregon City
18006 S Gronlund Rd	Baker (Horace) Log Cabin	Oregon City
719 Center St	Barclay, Dr Forbers, House	Oregon City
708 McLoughlin Blvd	Cochran, Capt John, House	Oregon City
1102 John Adams St	Endy, Abel & Thomazine, House	Oregon City
619 6th St	Ermatinger, Francis, House	Oregon City
536 Holmes Ln	Holmes, William L., House	Oregon City
606 4th Ave	Howell, Mary & Josiah, House	Oregon City
215 Jerome St	Jerome, Capt George, House	Oregon City
1110 Washington St	LaForest, Eugene & Mary, House	Oregon City
215 Miller St	Marshall, George, House	Oregon City
554 Warner-Parrot Rd	McCarver, Morton Matthew, House	Oregon City
1014-1016 6th St	McCarver, T J & Mary, House	Oregon City
17620 Deininger Rd	McCubbin, William R & Nancy, House	Oregon City
713 Center St	McLoughlin, John, House	Oregon City
402 S McLoughlin Blvd	Miller, Capt Sebastian, House	Oregon City
324 Tumwater Dr	Odgen, Julie, House	Oregon City
902 S McLoughlin Blvd	Paquet House	Oregon City
915 Rilance Ln	Stephenson, Dr Daniel, House	Oregon City
16000 S Depot Ln	Straight, Hiram A, House	Oregon City
19000 S Central Point Rd	White-Kellogg House	Oregon City vcty

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Pedee Creek Rd	Sheridan, Phil, House	Pedee
31433 Oakville Rd	McIlree, William, House	Peoria
27660 Peoria Rd	Shepherd, William, House	Peoria
29718 Peoria Rd	Worth, John Quincy Adams, House	Peoria
78000 Fort Hoskins Rd	Pedee House	Philomath
23056 Alsea Hwy	Wells-Huffman House	Philomath
37963 Hwy 223	King, Isaac, House & Barn	Philomath vcty
23380 Hoskins Rd	Watson, James & Mary, Farmstead	Philomath vcty
6246 SE Scott Dr	[House]	Portland
35 NE Fremont St	[House]	Portland
13837 NW Howell Park Rd	Bybee-Howell House	Portland
3436 SE Johnson Creek Blvd	Cole, Edwin, House	Portland
1020 SW Cheltenham Ct	Curry, George L, House	Portland
1825 SE 12th Ave	Stephens, James B, House	Portland
4504 SW Shattuck Rd	Tigard-Rogers House	Portland
3026 SE Tacoma St	Wills House	Portland
9285 NW Cornell Rd	Summers-Kieni House	Portland
Garden Rd	Dunbar House	Pratum vcty
3216 River Rd S	[House]	Salem
140 Wilson St S	Backett, William, House	Salem
260 12th St SE	Boon, John D, House	Salem
4292 Delaney Rd SE	Delaney-Edwards House	Salem
260 12th St SE	Lee, Jason, House	Salem
1365 John St S	McCully, David, House	Salem
1313 Mill St SE	Methodist Mission Parsonage	Salem
470 Water St NE	Parrish, Josiah L., House	Salem
5209 Sonya Rd SE	Shrum, Nicholas, House	Salem
606 High St SE	Smith-Fry House	Salem
1658 St NE	Waller-Chamberlain House	Salem
434 Water St	Wilson-Durbin House	Salem
2280 Wallace Rd NW	Harritt, Jesse & Julia, House	Salem
2325 Michigan City Ln NW	Singer House	Salem
12390 Sunnyview Rd SE	Geer, R C, Farmhouse	Salem vcty
3515 Prairie Rd SE	Waldo, Daniel, House	Salem vcty
6275 Spring Valley Rd NW	Philips, John, House	Salem vcty
39871 N Ruby Lp	Crabtree, James A, Cabin (House)	Scio
38679 SE Cedar St	Meyers, David, House	Scio
38923 N 4th Ave	Munkers, Preston, House	Scio
40606 Cole School Rd	O'Hara House	Scio
40489 Fish Hatchery Dr	Sargeant House	Scio
30026 1st St	Lewis, Annani, House	Shedd
33000 W Hwy 18	Brown, James H, House	Sheridan
735 Mill St	Chapman, William, House	Sheridan
8474 Hazel Green Rd NE	McCorkle, George F, House	Silverton vcty
7575 McKenzie Hwy	Gray, Frederick, House	Springfield
4971 Highbanks Rd	Harkins, Daniel McMahan, House	Springfield
450 Game Farm Rd	Stevens, William, House	Springfield

8078 Champoeg Rd NE	Jette, Adolph, House	St Paul
8089 Champoeg Rd NE	Newell, Robert, House	St Paul
32417 Tangent Dr	[House]	Tangent
32521 Hwy 99E	Jenks, James & Mary, House	Tangent
31797 Country Rd	Sherer, Sarah M & David Jr, House	Tangent
32930 Hwy 99E	Wetzel-Green House	Tangent
9030 SW Sagert St	Luster House	Tualatin
18815 SW Boones Ferry Rd	Sweek, John, House	Tualatin
4875 SW Schatz Rd	Robbins-Melcher-Schatz Farmstead	Tualatin vcty
Stageline Lane SE	Greer, Jerome, House	Turner
64 Dollar St	Fields-Babcock House	West Linn
4340 S Parker Rd	Lewis, Julia Ann, House	West Linn
33003 SW Ladd Hill Rd	Kramien Farm and House	Wilsonville
Pike Rd	Harris, T, House & Farm (?)	Yamhill vcty
Yamhill Chehalem Rd	Laughlin, Robert R, House	Yamhill vcty
16005 NW Rockyford Rd	Wright, Andrew & Eleanor, House	Yamhill vcty

PHOTOGRAPHS OF BROWNSVILLE SAMPLE SET

Following are the pictures of all the houses in the Brownsville sample set, as pre-determined by the Oregon Historic Sites Database's Willamette Valley Settlement group. Several houses were photographed and researched that were not in this group: the Geary House, the Blakely-McFarland House, the Hausman-Adams House, and the Byer House. To be consistent, these houses were not included in data analysis. They are included in the appendices to remind future researchers that the data set used in this thesis was thorough but not exhaustive.

Ross-Averill House
420 Averill
Photo by Author
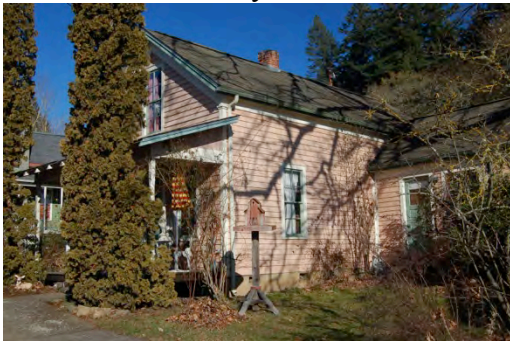
Marster House
504 Averill
Photo by Author

806 Bishop Way
Photo by Author

Geary House
117 Blakely Ave
Photo by Author

Blakely House
204 Blakely Ave
Photo by Author

Cooley House
220 Blakely Ave
Photo by Author

Brown House
320 Blakely Ave
Photo by Author

Blakely-McFarland House
360 Blakely Ave
Photo by Author

Cochran House
28484 Brownsville
Photo by Author

Powell House
29419 Brownsville
Photo by Linn Co Inventory

Sperry House
29682 Brownsville
Photo by Author

223 Holloway Heights
Photo by Author

Dinwiddie-Martin House
803 Kirk
Photo by Linn Co Inventory

Cox House
34840 Lake Creek
Photo by Author

Stone-Starr House
628 Main Street
Photo by Author

Henderson House
729 Main Street
Photo by Author

Coshaw House
608 Oak Street
Photo by Author

Hausman-Adams House
620 Main Street
Photo by Author

Byer House
627 Oak Street
Photo by Author

Cox-Stannard House
704 Oak Street
Photo by Author

Simons House
229 Spalding Ave
Photo by Author

Worsley House
503 Spalding Ave
Photo by Linn Co Inventory

Paden House
105 Stanard Ave
Photo by Linn Co Inventory

Cooley-Washington House
401 Washburn
Photo by Author

613 Washburn
Photo by Author

623 Washburn Street
Photo by Author

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