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Significant Individuals

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The following is a series of biographies of important architects, artisans, designers, builders, realtors, and developers who made important contributions to the physical evolution of Eastmoreland during the period of significance.

Biographies

Kenneth L. Birkemeier (1905-1996) - Builder

Kenneth L. Birkemeier was a renowned Portland builder who constructed custom and speculative homes from the 1930s to 1970s. The range of architectural styles included Colonial Revival, English Cottage, and Ranch houses, as well as mid-century modern homes. The houses were distinguished for their open floor plans, groundbreaking technology, and luxury built-ins. Birkemeier's Portland construction projects included homes in Eastmoreland and the Alameda Park addition, as well as apartment buildings and duplexes throughout the city. During the mid-to-late 1950s, Birkemeier constructed a group of distinguished mid-century modern Ranch style houses in Eastmoreland near the municipal golf course.

Birkemeier was born on October 21, 1905, in Milwaukie, Oregon, and studied architecture at the University of Oregon in the early 1920s. During his professional career, he drew plans, built forms, poured foundations, erected framing, and built custom kitchen cabinets. His small crew included Fred Snelling, who did the brick and stone work for Birkemeier's construction projects. ¹⁷¹ In the mid-1950s, after Alameda was built out, Birkemeier continued to design and build homes in Eastmoreland near Reed College and in neighborhoods on Portland's east and west sides. ¹⁷²

Harry B. Boland (1891-1979) - Architect

Harry B. Boland was born on February 14, 1891, in Neihart, Montana, the youngest son of an Irish miner. By 1910, he was living in Spokane, Washington and, by 1917, working for Ballard Plannery Company as a draftsman. During the 1920s, Boland moved to Portland, where he established the Universal Plan Service (UPS) office at 332 Railway Exchange Building. UPS soon became an influential design firm in Oregon specializing in developing individual house plans as well as stock plans for residential and commercial buildings. In his forward to the 1941 "Universal Small Homes" catalogue, Boland opined that, "There are very definite advantages to be enjoyed in choosing one's home from house plans not to suit any one family, but rather to conform to general public approval." The plan helped avoid the situation where, "should the owner afterwards desire to dispose of his home, he would find that its resale has been greatly lessened because of its departure from the average taste." The firm published its first plan book in 1926 and sold copies for 75

¹⁶⁹ Berkeley Park, Parks & Recreation, City of Portland, accessed on October 27, 2016, at

https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/finder/index.cfm?action=ViewPark&PropertyID=57

PortlandMaps. Historic Plumbing Permits, accessed on October 1, 2016, at https://www.portlandmaps.com

¹⁷¹ Doug Decker, "Alameda Old House History," accessed on October 24, 2016, at https://alamedahistory.org/the-builders/kenneth-l-kenny-birkemeier-1905-1996/

¹² Decker, 2016.

¹⁷³ Harry Basil Boland, Draft Registration Card, Source Citation-Registration State: Washington; Registration County: Spokane; Roll: 1992106; Draft Board: 4, Source Information-Ancestry.com. U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005.

¹⁷⁴ Universal Plan Service, *Universal Small Homes*, 1941, accessed on October 27, 2016, at http://www.dahp.wa.gov/sites/default/files/UniversalSmallHomes1941.pdf

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cents to \$1.00 each. Orders for UPS plan books came from throughout the nation during the 1920s building boom. By 1940, UPS had sold nearly 50,000 plan books. In Portland, Oregon, alone, the firm sold plans for nearly 10,000 homes.

Herman Brookman (1891-1973) - Architect

Herman S. Brookman is widely considered one of Portland's finest residential architects. Born to Russian Jewish immigrant parents in New York City, he trained in the design of elite residential architecture and country estates under the firm of Albro and Lindeberg. Brookman's reputation spread to such an extent that when M. Lloyd Frank (of the Meier & Frank department store) decided to build his own country estate, he called on Brookman. In 1923, Brookman moved his family to Portland to begin work on "Fir Acres," the Frank estate—now the Lewis and Clark College campus.

In 1927, Brookman's next major commission was the design for Temple Beth Israel in northwest Portland. Temple Beth Israel and Fir Acres are both listed on the NRHP. Over his 40-year career, Brookman designed a large number of residences in Portland and elsewhere, from grand to modest, including at least four in the Eastmoreland neighborhood: three in the Reed Garden Homes subdivision (3680 SE Glenwood Street, 3820 SE Glenwood Street, and 732 SE Glenwood, 1932) and two in the Eastmoreland subdivision (8015 SE 28th and 3510 SE Tolman).

John Bryson Cleland (1848-1935) and Ellen Josephine Corey Cleland (1848-1932) – Responsible for Platting Regal Hill and College View Additions

John Bryson Cleland and his wife, Ellen Josephine Corey Cleland, were responsible for platting two additions in the district, Regal Hill Addition in 1912, followed by College View, with the help of their son, John B. Cleland, in 1922. The Clelands employed landscape engineer Robert S. Greenleaf, the surveyor for the Eastmoreland plats, to survey Regal Hill and College View additions. In February 1922, after platting College View, the Clelands began constructing four houses there with plans to construct about 26 more. John Bryson Cleland was a distinguished member of the Portland bar and served as a judge for the fourth judicial district for 13 years. John Cleland was born on a farm near Janesville, Wisconsin, on July 15, 1848. He graduated from the University of Michigan's law school in 1871 and opened a practice in Osage, Iowa, the following year. Three years later, he married Ellen Josephine Corey. Ellen was born in 1848 in Rock County, Wisconsin. In 1876, John was elected district attorney of lowa's twelfth judicial district. In 1882, he was elected as a circuit judge, and in 1886, was elected district judge of the same district. In 1888, the Clelands moved to Fargo, North Dakota, where John entered private practice. The family, including three daughters, moved to Portland in 1890 where John opened a law practice with his brother William A. Cleland. In 1898, John was appointed judge of Oregon's fourth judicial district and served in that capacity for 13 years. In 1911, he resumed his private law practice with his brother, until his brother's death in 1913. John was a member of the University of Oregon Law School faculty for 10 years until transferring to the Northwestern School of Law faculty. Ellen and John Cleland celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at home on February 23, 1924. 175 Ellen Cleland died in 1932, and John Cleland died in 1935 at home in Portland. 176

Robert S. Greenleaf (1848-1915) - Surveyor/Landscape Engineer

Robert S. Greenleaf, born in 1848, was a Civil War veteran and reputable surveyor. He was one of Multnomah County's oldest and best known engineers. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, Greenleaf enlisted in the Union Army

¹⁷⁶ John Bryson Cleland, '71, The Michigan Alumnus, Vol. 41 (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Libraries), 1935, 311, accessed on October 28, 2016, at

¹⁷⁵ "Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebrated By Prominent Couple," *Oregonian*, March 2, 1924; "Mrs. Cleland Rites Set," *Oregonian*, May 18, 1932; "Woodstock," *Oregon Daily Journal*, February 26, 1922.

https://books.google.com/books?id=ryJYAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA311&dq=John+Bryson+Cleland&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjB5oit v3PAhXK7CYKHVd2CqYQ6AEIHDAA#v=onepage&q=John%20Bryson%20Cleland&f=false; Biography of Judge John B. Cleland, Oregon Biographies, accessed on October 28, 2016, at http://www.onlinebiographies.info/or/cleland-jb.htm

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at the age of 17. He arrived in Oregon in 1884, where he began working as a staff engineer for the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company. Greenleaf subsequently helped organize the Title & Trust Company and did much of their work in platting new additions and running property lines. During his time with Title & Trust Company, Greenleaf became associated with Arthur Hedley, assistant to the U.S. engineer's office in Portland. Greenleaf and Hedley platted many of Portland's east side subdivisions. Greenleaf had a reputation for accurate work and, in 1890, he and Hedley left the trust company to form their own firm, which operated for 2 years. In 1891, William S. Ladd hired Greenleaf and Hedley to survey the land that he had acquired in the 1870s. Ladd's Addition (1891) was one of the earliest attempts to adopt a radial plan drawn from Baroque principles of planning for the design of a garden suburb built to accommodate streetcar commuters.¹⁷⁷

Also, in 1891, Portland City Engineer T.M. Hurlburt appointed Greenleaf to fill his unexpired term as County Surveyor and, in 1892, Greenleaf was elected to that position. He was later elected as County Assessor and served in that position until 1902. In addition to Eastmoreland, Regal Hill, Campus Heights, and Ladd's Addition, Greenleaf platted Rose City Park, Laurelhurst, Westmoreland, Bellecrest, Euclid Heights, and Greenhills.¹⁷⁸ He ran the Greenleaf surveying business until his death in 1957.¹⁷⁹

Julia Groo (1906-1986) – Essay Prize Winner

In 1924, 18-year-old Julia Groo of Portland, Oregon, wrote a 600-word essay on the "value of good home lighting" and submitted it to a national competition sponsored by the National Electric Light Association. Groo received the news of her win in late December 1924. Since Groo and her parents expressed a commitment to staying in Portland, the Ladd Realty Company recognized Groo's achievement as an opportunity to highlight the qualities of Eastmoreland. The Company donated a 100-by-100-foot lot on the neighborhood's parkway—Reed College Place—between Tolman and Claybourne (6428 SE Reed College Place). A 1929 aerial photograph shows the completed Groo House standing alone in the middle of the block on the east side of Reed College Place, facing an empty block on the other side of the parkway.

When the house was finished at the beginning of November 1925, the Groo family and their sponsors, the National Electric Light Association, welcomed visits from the public for an entire month. During that time, the Ladd Realty Company ran an advertisement in the *Oregonian* that read:

A thousand people every day and about two thousand on Sundays have visited Miss Julia Groo's Prize Home in Eastmoreland. If you are not among those who went last week you will want to see Miss Groo's \$15,000 electrical home this week. To you, we extend an invitation to really *visit Eastmoreland*. Drive through the winding boulevards, and see some of Portland's finest homes. You will be impressed by the originality of Eastmoreland homes and gardens ¹⁸²

After a short delay due to the completion of the house and associated festivities, Groo entered the freshman class at the University of Oregon in 1926 to study liberal arts. By then, she had received national acclaim, 400 marriage proposals, and a film contract offer. Her goal was to become an expert on electrical lighting and interior decorating; however, research did not reveal whether Groo achieved that goal. ¹⁸³ In October 1926.

¹⁷⁷ Ames et al., 41.

¹⁷⁸ "R.S. Greenleaf Dies," *Oregonian*, September 3, 1915; "Deal In Acreage Nets Good Profit," *Oregonian*, February 11, 1910; "Laurelhurst Is Progressing," *Oregonian*, October 17, 1909; Linda Flint McClelland and David L. Ames, Historic Residential Suburbs in the United States 1830-1960, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 2002, 41. It should be noted that Robert S. Greenleaf is sometimes referred to in secondary sources as "Richard Greenleaf." A review of primary documents, including his obituary and U.S. Census Records, however, it is confirmed that his name was in fact Robert S. Greenleaf.

¹⁷⁹ "Surveyor, 70, Dies at Home," *Oregonian*, November 16, 1957.

^{180 &}quot;\$15,000 Home Won by Portland Girl," *Oregonian*. December 31, 1924.

¹⁸¹ "\$15,000 Home is Begun: Miss Julia Groo Turns Spadeful of Earth," May 10, 1925.

lbid

¹⁸³ "Julia Groo Turns Down Movies For Course At Oregon," Eugene Register-Guard, January 4, 1926.

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Groo announced her engagement to Captain Robert F. Pelouze, a stockbroker at Blyth, Witter & Co.¹⁸⁴ The couple married in June 1927 and had a daughter Marigene.¹⁸⁵ Julia Groo Pelouze died in August 1986 at the age of 79 years.

Charles D. James (1876-1966) - Architect

The supervising architect for the Groo project, Charles D. James, argued that the "All Electric House" was "by no means merely a show place, but rather an unusually well-designed house, attention having been given to details that ordinarily are considered unimportant." ¹⁸⁶

Charles Dearman James (1876-1966) contributed to Portland architecture for over a 20-year period. Born in Leeds, England, James trained as an architect in London, where he received the Royal Institute of British Architect (RIBA) bronze medal for design at the age of 16. He became a RIBA fellow and practiced for a number of years in England before leaving for Canada in 1910. Although perhaps his best-known project was the Great Northern Railroad Depot in Vancouver B.C., he designed the Great Northern Railroad Depot in Klamath Falls, Oregon, as well. Charles James served as the President of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Oregon Chapter in 1923-1924 and as chapter director in 1925-1927, while working on the "All Electric House." 187

Fedor John Hryciuk (1875-1983) – Stonemason

Much of the stone landscape work in Eastmoreland is attributed to master stonemason Fedor John Hryciuk, the namesake for Eastmoreland's Fedor Addition. Hryciuk was born in 1875 in the village of Lojo, in what is now Russia. His father and uncle were master stonemasons, and Fedor learned his trade from them. He immigrated alone to New York around 1906 and moved to Portland around 1908, soon becoming renowned for his stonemason work.¹⁸⁸ He married his wife, Jean Rohde, in the 1940s. Together, they platted Fedor's Addition in 1947. They also built and lived in the house at 3650 SE Claybourne Street for a short period before moving to northeast Portland. Hryciuk's obituary explains that he was responsible for much of the stone wall work in Eastmoreland, as well as Lake Oswego and Portland Heights.¹⁸⁹ In his later years, Hryciuk was active in the local art community and was a frequent model posing for students at the Art Museum School.¹⁹⁰ He died at age 107 in 1983 in Eugene, Oregon.¹⁹¹

Bruce McKay (1890-1947) - Builder

Bruce McKay was born in Chandler, Iowa, on January 31, 1890, to Findley and Alice McKay. He volunteered May 12, 1917, for the Army and served as a Captain during World War I with the Co. E. 313th Ammunition Train in France. He married Ruth Elizabeth Chandler, July 31, 1920, in Leland, Michigan, an unincorporated township in Leelanau County. He is son, Gardon B. McKay, was born in 1923. He was in the construction business.

¹⁸⁴ "Miss Julia Groo Announces Engagement," *Statesman Journal*, October 3, 1926.

¹⁸⁵ "Society," Eugene Guard, June 25, 1927; "Funeral Notices," Oregonian, March 29, 1946.

^{186 &}quot;Miss Groo will Receive Visitors in Her Prize Home," *Oregonian,* November 1, 1925.

¹⁸⁷ Ritz, 2002.

¹⁸⁸ *Oregonian*, February 11, 1983.

¹⁸⁹ Oregonian, February 11, 1983.

¹⁹⁰ *Oregonian*, April 21, 1974.

¹⁹¹ Oregonian, February 11, 1983.

¹⁹² Find a Grave Memorial, John Bruce McKay, 1890-1947

¹⁹³ Michigan Marriage Records 1867-1952 (Ancestry.com)

¹⁹⁴ Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925 (Ancestry.com)

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To build his first homes in Portland, McKay purchased a 100-by-160-foot tract of land in Eastmoreland from Frank B. Upshaw of the Eastmoreland Company on Reed College Place. On this property, he built a house for himself, his wife Elizabeth, and their 3-year-old son Gardon, as well as another dwelling on the neighboring property that was promoted as French in inspiration, following the architectural precepts of Normandy and Britany. It was estimated that each of the houses cost \$18,000. McKay went on to design a number of other houses throughout Eastmoreland and Portland.

Ewald Theodore (E.T.) Pape (1894-1976) – Designer

E.T. Pape designed the WRB Demonstration House (1932) in Eastmoreland for the Women's Realty Board. Pape was born on December 10, 1894, in Dusseldorf, Germany. He arrived in New York from Bremen, Germany, on December 4, 1913, with three of his siblings. Pape joined his father, Lorenz, who was already living in Chicago with two of Pape's other siblings. He In 1917, when Pape registered for the World War I draft, he was living in Wilmette, Illinois, and working as a "millman" for the Evanston Labor Company. Pape's wife Alma was born in Wilmette, where they presumably met. Pape was living in Port Edwards, Wisconsin, in 1920 and married Alma in Vancouver, Washington, in November 1923. According to the Portland City Directory, Pape became a Portland resident in 1923, living at the Royal Palms Apartments at 262 Flanders and working independently as a draftsman.

E.T. Pape designed residential and industrial buildings in Portland and gained acclaim for his innovative apartment designs. Although Pape was not a registered architect, he designed three Portland apartment buildings that are included in an NRHP multiple property designation entitled "Middle Class Apartment Buildings in East Portland MPS (1920-1945)" the Burrell Heights, San Farlando and Thompson Court Apartments."¹⁹⁹

While the WRB Demonstration House was under construction in 1931, Pape was working on another Eastmoreland house. The nine-room, three-bath \$12,000 home was built for F.B. Turner and located at East 30th and Lambert Streets (a later source locates the F.B. Turner House on U.S. Grant Place). The WRB Demonstration House was nearing completion and scheduled for public inspection on June 14, 1931. Later that year, Pape again collaborated with builders Alex Shand and A.S. Reager, who constructed the WRB Demonstration House, on a two-story Mediterranean style house with ballroom in the basement for George S. Lewis at East Twenty-First North and Knott Streets.²⁰⁰

Jamieson Kirkwood Parker (1895-1939) - Architect

Jamieson Parker established himself as a significant member of Portland's architectural community with 75 important homes (seven of which are listed on the NRHP) and two notable churches. A native Oregonian, Parker completed his secondary education at the Portland Academy and began his architectural training at the age of 17 by working for noted Portland architect A.E. Doyle in 1912. He worked two years in the Doyle & Patterson office and then enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania's architecture program in 1914. A 1916

¹⁹⁵ U.S. World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942. Ewald Theodore Pape, Ancestry.com. [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.

¹⁹⁶ ABT UNK, Amanda Pape. 2010, accessed on August 10, 2016, at http://abt-unk.blogspot.com/2010/12/christmas-card-from-oregon-c-1928-1942.html

¹⁹⁷ U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Ewald Theodore Pape, United States World War I Draft Registration Card. Ancestry.com. [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2005.

¹⁹⁸ John M. Tess and Robert L. Mawson, Heritage Investment Corporation, "Middle Class Apartments in East Portland," National Register of Historic Places, Multiple Property Documentation Form 64500511, certified February 21, 1997; Ritz, 2002.

¹⁹⁹ Ritz, 2002; Tess, 1997.

²⁰⁰ E.T. Pape Moves Offices," *Oregonian*, April 27, 1930; Portland City Directory, 1928; "House Building Gain," *Oregonian*, May 24, 1931; "3 Houses Being Rushed," *Oregonian*, August 17, 1930; "Six Houses Under Way," *Oregonian*, June 7, 1931; "\$15,000 Residence Planned," *Oregonian*, August 23, 1931.

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Oregonian article announced that "Portland Man Wins: Jamieson Parker Caries Off Architectural Honors," receiving "Highest Mention" in a University of Pennsylvania student design competition.²⁰¹ After working for approximately two years in the New York City architectural office of H. Van Buren Magnoigle (1916-1918) and serving in the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant of coast artillery (1918), he returned to Portland in 1919 to work once again in Doyle's office.²⁰²

In the same year that Parker was selected by Ladd Realty to design the 27th Avenue "colonial bungalow" houses, he formed Johnson, Parker, and Wallwork with Folger Johnson and Carl Wallwork. Parker took a very active role in Eastmoreland development during the early 1920s. A 1922 Eastmoreland advertisement intended to draw attention to "discerning home builders" featured his work, including a sketch of his brother Alfred Parker's house at the northeast corner of 30th and Tolman and a residence at East 29th and Carlton. That same year, Parker drew up the plans for the Ladd Estate Company's Eastmoreland Realty Office and an office remodel for the company's downtown office space. However, beyond his engagement with the Ladd Realty Company at this time, Parker demonstrated a commitment to the challenge represented by the "row of handsome bungalows in Eastmoreland." He participated in the Oregon chapter of the AIA committee (1921) that addressed the concerns of the "Better Small Homes Movement." Parker was named first in a four-member committee that included such distinguished names as O.R. Bean and Ellis Lawrence. The last house that Parker designed was built in 1931. During the Depression, he shifted his attention to the administration of programs developed as part of the New Deal. He became regional director for the Historic American Building Survey in 1934 and then served as the State Director for the Federal Housing Administration from 1935 until his death in 1939.

Alexander Marshall Shand (1877-1943) - Builder

Alex M. Shand, WRB demonstration house builder, was born in Garmouth, Scotland, on December 18, 1877. Shand immigrated to the United State in 1909, moved to 320 2nd Street in Portland, and began working as a foreman for Butterworth-Stephenson Company. During the mid-1910s to mid-1920s, the *Portland City Directory* listings show Alex Shand as a carpenter living with his wife Mary at a variety of Portland addresses. Shand became a naturalized U.S. citizen on November 16, 1916.²⁰³

In 1922, Shand was inducted as a member of the Association for Building and Construction's newly organized building craftsman's guild. The following year, in June 1923, Shand received the guild insignia presented by the state education superintendent in recognition of exceptional ability in his craft. In 1924, Shand was admitted to Oregon's Guild of Building Handicrafts, "the greatest recognition that can be given to a craftsman in this state, according to the guild." During the 1930s, wife Mary Shand, who immigrated to the United States in 1907, was working as a real estate broker. They owned a house at 1559 East Ash, where they lived with their four children, ages nine to eighteen.

A decade after the WRB in Portland first organized, construction began on the WRB-sponsored demonstration home in Eastmoreland (February 1931). The WRB Demonstration House was designed by E.T. Pape and constructed by Alex M. Shand and A. Selby Reager on a 66-by-110-foot lot at the intersection of what is now SE Knapp and 28th Avenue.²⁰⁵

²⁰¹ "Portland Man Wins," *Oregonian,* January 31, 1916.

²⁰² Ritz, 2002, 307-309; "Director Dies: State Housing Chief Dies," December 9, 1939.

²⁰³ U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942, Alex Marshall Shand, World War II Draft Registration Card, Ancestry.com. [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010; Portland City Directory, 1909, 1914 and 1923, Ancestry.com. U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011; "Ten Become Citizens," *Oregonian*, November 17, 1916.

²⁰⁴ "Guild's Initiates Get Certificates," Oregonian, October 18, 1922; "Insignia To Be Given," *Oregonian*, June 10, 1923; "Guild Pin Badge of Craft Ability," *Oregonian*, January 27, 1924.

²⁰⁵ "Womens Realty Board Will Build Demonstration Home," *Oregon Daily Journal*, February 22, 1931.

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The WRB committee responsible for the demonstration house project was appointed by board president Mrs.

L.A. Sauvie and included Mary Shand (wife of builder Alex M. Shand), Mrs. B. Johnson, and Mrs. Ida Symmonds. The Shands remained in the construction and real estate industries as of the 1940 U.S. Census, but by then had moved to SE Gladstone Street. In 1942, Shand was still in business as a builder and living at 5222 SE Gladstone in Portland. He died on September 3, 1943.²⁰⁶

Mary Shand (b. 1884) – Women's Realty Board Officer

Mary Shand, wife of builder Alex M. Shand, was a pioneer in WRB Realty Board Secretary in December 1931. She was elected as board president in January 1935. She was still active in real estate during the 1940s, and participated in a panel discussion entitled "Women's Angle in the Real Estate Business" at the Portland Realty Board's luncheon in May 1941, the first time that a woman had taken such a prominent role in the event.

Three years later, Mary Shand was elected to active membership in the Portland Realty Board.²⁰⁷

In addition to her real estate career and organizational activities, Mary Shand was active in local and national politics. She sponsored the women's Carson-for-mayor club in 1932. She had been active in the Republican Party since the 1920s and, in 1944, became a delegate to the Republican national convention in Chicago, and was quoted as stating, "I will support the candidate who would be willing to demand that the profits be taken out of war." She and her daughter traveled to the Chicago convention with other delegates on the Union Pacific's Portland Rose.²⁰⁸

Ruby Stranahan (1881 – 1963) and Robert Stranahan (1882 -1955) – Stranahan & Stranahan Builders

Ruby Lois Wade Stranahan was born January 16, 1881, to Robert Wallace Wade and Anna Florence Deardorff Wade. She died on December 28, 1963, and was interred at Willamette National Cemetery with her husband Robert. Robert Stranahan was born on August 25, 1882, in Minnesota and served with Battery A of the Oregon Light Artillery during the Spanish American War.²⁰⁹ When Robert registered for the draft in 1918, he was living in Portland with his first wife Sarah Stranahan and working as a "stationary engineer" for the Union Meat Company.²¹⁰ Robert and his wife Sarah separated around 1923, and he married Ruby within the next few years. Ruby was an original investor in the Eastmoreland Realty Company in 1926. During the early 1930s, Stranahan & Stranahan continued to construct houses in Eastmoreland and other Portland neighborhoods. Ruby Stranahan obtained building permits for houses on Henry Avenue and East 34th Street and, in March 1931, the *Oregonian* announced her plan to construct another Harry Boland-designed house at 1392 East 28th Street. She obtained a permit to construct another house in Eastmoreland, at 1021 Claybourne Avenue, in May 1931.²¹¹

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- Name of PropertyInited States Federal Census, 1940, Ancestry.com; U.S., World War II Draft Registration242, Alex Marshall Shand, World War II Draft Registration Card, Ancestry.com. [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010; Oregon, Death Index, 1898-2008, Alex M. Shand, 1943, Ancestry.com. Oregon, Death Index, 1898-2008 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2000.
 - ²⁰⁷ "Woman's Realty Board Elects," *Oregonian*, December 13, 1931; "The Portland Women's Realty Board Announces," *Oregonian*, January 6, 1935; "Realty Board Meets Friday," *Oregonian*, May 23, 1941; "Members Elected," *Oregonian*, January 23, 1944.
 - ²⁰⁸ "Carson Women Active," Oregonian, October 24, 1932; "War Profit Opposed," Oregonian, May 14, 1944; "Rose to Take G.O.P. Group," *Oregonian*, June 21, 1944.
 - ²⁰⁹ Robert Oscar Stranahan, Report of Interment, Source Information-Ancestry.com. U.S. National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012.
 - ²¹⁰ Robert Oscar Stranahan, World War I Draft Registration Cards, Source Citation-Registration State: Oregon; Registration County: Multnomah; Roll: 1852147; Draft Board: 10, Source Information-Ancestry.com. U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2005.
 - ²¹¹ "Building Permits," *Oregonian*, July 9, 1930; "\$20,000 House to Rise," *Oregonian*, March 1, 1931; "Building Permits More Than \$1000," *Oregonian*, May 29, 1931.