

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

State of Washington, Department of Community Development
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11
Olympia, WA 98504 (206) 753-4011

MAY 11 1988

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Site No. 34-197 OAHF No. _____ Date Recorded 3/25/85 revised 8/87
Site Name Historic Union Mills Superintendent's House
Common n/a
Field Recorder ss/tc
Owner's Name Roy and Pat Rossow
Address 7716 Union Mills Road
City/State/Zip Code Olympia, WA 98503

LOCATION SECTION

Address 7716 Union Mills Road
City/Town/County/Zip Code Olympia vicinity/Thurston/98503
Twp 18N Range 1W Section 23 ¼ Section NW ¼ Section SW
Tax No./Parcel No. 11823232200 Acreage less than one
Quadrangle or map name Lacey 7.5
UTM References Zone 10 Easting 517200 Northing 5208650
Plat/Block/Lot See Verbal Boundary Description
Supplemental Map(s) NA

Status

- Survey/Inventory
- National Register
- State Register
- Determined Eligible
- Determined Not Eligible
- Other (HABS, HAER, NHL)
- Local Designation

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Neg. No. 10-6, 2s-3
(Roll No. & Frame No.)
View of south facade, east facade
Date 3/25/85; 7/87

Classification District Site Building Structure Object

District Status NR SR LR INV

Contributing Non-Contributing

District/Thematic Nomination Name Historic Resources of Unincorporated Thurston County

Within the above parcel the VBD is:

Verbal Boundary Description: Commencing at the northwest corner S 88° 50' 2" E 40° S 31' E 30' S 9° 30' 36" E 147.56' S 57° 53' 19" E 1035' point of beginning N 32° 6' 41" E 150' S 47° 53' 9" E 100' S 32° 6' 4" W 150' N 51° 53' 19" W 100'.

Verbal Boundary Justification: The nominated parcel includes the entire property historically associated with the Union Mills Superintendent House. (continued)

Contributing Resources: One Building

Noncontributing Resources: 0

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Materials & Features/Structural Types

Building Type Domestic/Residence
Plan Rectangular
Structural System Wood frame
No. of Stories One and one-half

Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces)

- Log
- Horizontal Wood Siding
- Rustic/Drop
- Clapboard
- Wood Shingle
- Board and Batten
- Vertical Board
- Asbestos/Asphalt
- Brick
- Stone
- Stucco
- Terra Cotta
- Concrete/Concrete Block
- Vinyl/Aluminum Siding
- Metal (specify) _____
- Other (specify) _____

Roof Type

- Gable Hip
- Flat Pyramidal
- Monitor Other (specify) _____
- Gambrel
- Shed

Roof Material

- Wood Shingle
- Wood Shake
- Composition
- Slate
- Tar/Built-Up
- Tile
- Metal (specify) _____
- Other (specify) _____
- Not visible

Foundation

- Log
- Post & Pier
- Stone
- Brick
- Not visible
- Concrete Block
- Poured
- Other (specify) _____

High Styles/Forms (check one or more of the following)

- Greek Revival
- Gothic Revival
- Italianate
- Second Empire
- Romanesque Revival
- Stick Style
- Queen Anne
- Shingle Style
- Colonial Revival
- Beaux Arts/Neoclassical
- Chicago/Commercial Style
- American Foursquare
- Mission Revival
- Spanish Colonial Revival/Mediterranean
- Tudor Revival
- Craftsman/Arts & Crafts
- Bungalow
- Prairie Style
- Art Deco/Art Moderne
- Rustic Style
- International Style
- Northwest Style
- Commercial Vernacular
- Residential Vernacular (see below)
- Other (specify) Dutch Colonial

Vernacular House Types

- Gable front
- Gable front and wing
- Side gable
- Cross gable
- Pyramidal/Hipped
- Other (specify) _____

Integrity (Include detailed description in Description of Physical Appearance)

	Intact	Slight	Moderate	Extensive
Changes to plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to windows	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to original cladding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit Themes (check one or more of the following)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics/Government/Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture/Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Science & Engineering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic Heritage (specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Movements/Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning/Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing/Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Study Unit Sub-Theme(s) (specify) _____ |

Statement of Significance

Date of Construction 1910 Architect/Engineer/Builder Unknown Level of Significance: local
 In the opinion of the surveyor, this property appears to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places Period of Significance: 1910-1925
 In the opinion of the surveyor, this property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local).

The last important remnant of a once-thriving company town, the Union Mills Superintendent's House is historically significant for its association with one of the largest lumber mills in the county and one of the first electric sawmills in the Northwest. Although some workers' houses and a manager's residence are still extant, the Superintendent's House retains the greatest integrity and closest historical ties with the mill. No longer standing are the mill, auxiliary buildings, and the hotel, all torn down in the 1930s.

One of the first electric sawmills in the northwest, the Union Mills was owned by the Chattan family associated with the Fletcher-Coward Company of Kansas City where the lumber was shipped for retail sale. First built in 1910, the mill burned and was reconstructed in 1912. Power was generated on-site with steamboilers and a steam turbine and the mill produced dimensional lumber, lath, shingles, and specialties including "tung-lock silo," a notched product for water towers and silos, tongue-in-groove ready-cut pieces for home building, and log squares which were sold to Japan.

The mill first logged around Pattison Lake and floated logs through a canal which connected it with Long Lake. Later a railroad was built to Hogum Bay and logging commenced there and at South Bay north of the mill. Three locomotives brought logs pulled from the woods by donkey engines over the railway. Later logs came by rail from Union Burn and Hanaford Valley at Bucoda in southern Thurston County. A trestle was built into Long Lake which dumped the logs for storage before milling. A tugboat maneuvered logs to the conveyor near the lake where logs were fed into the mill.
(continued)

Description of Physical Appearance

Located adjacent to the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks, two miles east of Lacey, the Superintendent's House is a rectangular one and one-half story wood frame structure of Dutch Colonial Style on a concrete block foundation. Its cross-gable bellcast gambrel roof is covered with composition shingles and has wide overhangs with wide gable-end fascia boards. The roofline is broken by a central brick chimney and has bracketed overhanging center gables on the front (south) and rear facades. Walls are clad with drop siding on the first story and shingles on the gable ends. Horizontal banding is at the first and second floorlines. A porch is recessed under the roof at the southwest corner. Wooden steps leading to porch have railings with ornate turned posts and balusters, which continue along the porch. The porch corner post is unadorned, while the center post is turned. The porch shelters the panelled entry door, which has an original wooden screen door and an ornate architrave with sidelights. The northeast corner has the rear entry which has a newer covered patio and deck. Fenestration consists of single and paired double-hung sash with one-over-one lights and plain surrounds with prominent head moldings. A rectangular bay with a triple window is centered below the overhanging gable on the front facade.

While the exterior and interior spaces are intact, some alterations have been made to accommodate modern amenities.

Major Bibliographic References

Interviews with Fred Daly and Elizabeth Gillis Morrow, whose parents worked at the mill, 1985.
Stevenson, Shanna. Lacey, Olympia and Tumwater: A Pictorial History, Donning, 1985.

UNION MILLS SUPERINTENDENT'S HOUSE

Significance (continued):

The Union Mills Company built houses for married employees, some of which still stand in altered condition adjacent to the Superintendent's House. Two larger houses were built by company carpenters for the manager and superintendent. The single men lived in a three story hotel which sat near the Superintendent's House but has since been razed. Here about 70 men roomed and were fed in a large dining hall. The building also housed a store, post office, pool hall, and barbershop.

The mill closed in 1925, after a fire at its timber source in Bucoda. The cost of transporting logs to the mill also made further operations uneconomical. The mill was dismantled and the hotel eventually torn down in the 1930s. The mill stood across Union Mills Road from the hotel and residences.

Verbal Boundary Description (continued):

The boundary can also be described thuslyL beginning at a point on the northside of Union Mill Road approximately 2800 feet west of the N.W. intersection of Marvin-McAllister Road and Union Mill Road, proceed 150 feet west, 150 feet north, 150 feet east, and 150 feet south to the point of beginning.