

OMB NO. 1024-0018  
EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received JUN 27 1983  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Osterman House

and/or common Tuttle House

2. Location

street & number 508 Lincoln Street \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Walla Walla \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Washington code 053 county Walla Walla code 071

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Ruth York Tuttle

street & number 508 Lincoln Street

city, town Walla Walla \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state Washington 99362

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Auditor's Office

street & number 315 West Main Street

city, town Walla Walla \_\_\_\_\_ Washington 99362

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title none has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_\_\_ yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Henry Osterman House is a picturesque Queen Anne style home in the Hawley's Addition area of Walla Walla. The building has been well-maintained and the several early alterations to the structure have gained historical significance in their own right. The house is sited on a large lot in a residential neighborhood and the Osterman-designed Sharpstein School is nearby. A small frame garage is at the rear of the property.

As is typical for the Queen Anne style, the outline of the building is irregular and the structure itself is embellished with a variety of surface ornamentation. The first floor is clad with beaded shiplap siding and the second story is covered with shingles laid in alternate rows with staggered butts. Most windows in the house are one-over-one, double hung sash. An engaged octagonal tower is on one corner of the house. Details on the tower include windows on three sides, beaded shiplap spandrels between floors, short beaded pilaster-like boards beneath the eaves, and a low-pitch octagonal roof. A one story porch is on the front facade. The porch posts are squared with turned elements in the middle section. Other porch details include brackets with a fan pattern, turned pendants, porch rail newels with turned finials, and a latticework porch rail with spindles and squared balusters. Many first floor windows have fluted surrounds and dentillated pediments. The wood and glass front door has a transom and fluted surrounds. Above the porch on the second floor is a small porch recessed behind a round arch. Next to this small porch is a three sided bay window that projects over the first floor porch. The bay is topped by a pediment with a raking molded cornice and a lattice work decoration against the tympanum. On the second floor of the east and west facades are slightly projecting bays that also have pedimented gables but with lunettes in the tympanum. Beneath the eave of the pyramidal main roof and the pedimented bays is a plain frieze decorated with square, bevelled blocks. In approximately 1908, Osterman expanded the building to the south. He imitated many of the decorative devices from the original design but also added a porch on the second floor which is recessed behind three shingled segmental arches (that have since been glazed). Also added was a dining room with two bay windows. Though executed in the same materials as the rest of the house, the design of the bays is more Craftsman in feeling with triple banded multipaned windows, a flaring hip roof and exposed support beams beneath the bays. Another small addition, more in the Queen Anne style, was added on the east side ca. 1896. Projecting from the main roof are two chimneys with corbelled caps.

The interior of the house has a variety of decorative elements that also relate to late-Victorian taste. Symetrically molded trim with bull's eye corner blocks surround most windows and doors. There is a central staircase with turned newels and balusters, paneled doors, period bathtubs and sinks, porcelain and brass doorknobs, and other period hardware. The parlor has an unusual fireplace that is constructed of pressed brick. It has a Romanesque-style arched opening with an archivolt whose bricks are "rock-faced." Similar rock-faced bricks are on the cornice of the mantle. Osterman liked this juxtaposition of smooth and rough masonry and it is utilized in several of his buildings. The dining room and the bedroom above the dining room were added ca. 1908. The interior finish of the dining room also reflects the current Craftsman aesthetic that Osterman used on the outside bays. Simple straight-lined board and batten wainscoting is capped by a plate rail and embellished with a discreet bead and reel molding. The built-in china closet has leaded glass windows in an Art Nouveau floral motif.

The small frame garage (ca. 1918) at the rear of the property replaced an older stable. It has novelty siding and bungalow features such as exposed rafter tails, multi-pane casement windows and knee braces.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

<b>Specific dates</b>	1892-93	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Osterman Brothers
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### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Henry Osterman's contribution to the architecture of the city of Walla Walla is undeniably profound. Lyman's 1918 history of the county noted that "practically all the important business and office buildings in the city, together with many of the finer residences" were designed by Henry Osterman. This particular house is the oldest known Osterman design in Walla Walla and the structure served as a residence and office for the architect for many years. The building is a good example of the Queen Anne style and its contribution to the historical character of Walla Walla is significant.

Osterman was born near Essen, Germany, in 1862. His family was involved in farming and milling. He served three years in the German Army before coming to the United States in 1889 with his brothers William, Frank, and August. The four brothers settled in Walla Walla in June of 1889. The Ostermans had little knowledge of English or the building conditions here, but nevertheless found work as carpenters. In 1892, William Osterman purchased the land upon which the Osterman House now stands and the brothers proceeded to build a home. With the exception of Henry, all of the Osterman Brothers returned to Germany around 1896, and Henry acquired full rights to the house. By this time Henry had begun to work as a contractor and designer and by 1899 he advertised himself as an architect, using his home address for his office.

In 1902 he married Miss Geneva Cooney. In 1905, he moved his office downtown and in 1912 accepted as a partner Victor E. Siebert, a newly trained graduate of Boston School of Technology. The architectural firm of Osterman, later Osterman and Siebert, was prolific.

Osterman's direct influence on the development of the Walla Walla community is seen daily by the many citizens who use the many buildings he designed. In 1908, Pacific Builder magazine noted that "Henry Osterman is Walla Walla's architect, first and last." In that year alone he had over a quarter of a million dollars worth of commissions, mostly civic and commercial structures, but also twenty-five private residences.

Among the more prominent buildings in Walla Walla designed and constructed by Henry Osterman are the County Courthouse, the City Hall, the National Guard Armory (whose cornerstone identifies Osterman and Siebert as the architects) and the YMCA, which is still in use as a recreational resource by the Odd Fellows Lodge. Additional buildings include the Schwabacher/Gardner Department Store (now Bank of the West), Walla Walla High School and Gymnasium (razed), the community arts center, the Walla Walla Central Fire Station (razed), the original Masonic Temple (now known as the Copeland Building), the Central Christian Church, the Ellis Hotel, the Siel Building, Green Park School, Sharpstein School, the Drumheller Building, the 1917 American Theatre (now called the Liberty), the Third National Bank facade, and many others. His Dixie High School (1921 with Siebert) is listed on the National Register. Henry Osterman retired to Seattle in 1927 and he died there in 1936. Both Osterman's son and grandson have become architects.

The home is a fine example of late nineteenth century middle-class housing and its significance is enhanced by its close association with the career of Henry Osterman. There

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

- Bennett, Robert. Walla Walla Between 1900 and 1929, Pioneer Press, Walla Walla, 1982.  
Lyman, William. History of Walla Walla County, Vol. II, S.J. Clarke Company, Chicago, 1918.  
MacLeod, R.L. Up-to-the-Times magazine, Vol. I and II, November 1906, October 1908.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Walla Walla

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	1	3	9	7	5	0	0	5	1	0	1	9	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

**Verbal boundary description and justification** Lots 10 and 11 and that part of Lot 12 in Block C of Haley's Addition to the City of Walla Walla, according to the official plat thereof of record in the office of the Auditor of said County of Walla Walla, described as follows to wit: beginning at the northeast corner of said Lot 12, and running thence south along the

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
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state	n/a	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>William Vollendorff, President</u>	Edited by Mark Brack	
organization	<u>Heritage Preservation Foundation of the Walla Walla Valley</u>	O.A.H.P.	
street & number	<u>134 Otis Street</u>	date	<u>August 1982</u>
city or town	<u>Walla Walla</u>	telephone	<u>(509) 525-3593</u>
		state	<u>Washington 99362</u>

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national     state     local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

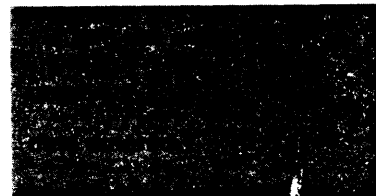
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Paul E. Skon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/13/83

For NPS use only  
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
Linda M. Cleveland date 10/19/83  
Keeper of the National Register  
Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Continuation sheet

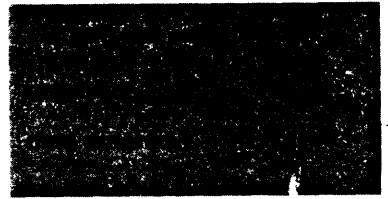
Item number 8

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are a number of other Queen Anne style homes in Walla Walla, several of which could be more accurately described as mansions. Nevertheless, the Osterman house is one Walla Walla's most notable Victorian-era houses. Unlike many period homes, the house has been well maintained and the original detailing left intact. The building makes a pleasant contribution to its generally turn-of-the-century neighborhood. The Osterman house is also a poignant reminder of the "American Dream"--"step by step he has worked his way upward and his course should serve to inspire others who must start out in life empty-handed."

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Continuation sheet

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Ogle, George. Standard Atlas of Walla Walla County, 1909.

Osterman, Hugo. (son of Henry Osterman) Interview, April 19, 1983. 1646 S.W. Hillcrest Road, Seattle, WA 98166.

Pacific Builder magazine. November 7, 1908, p. 399.

Walla Walla City and County Directories, 1893-1896.

Walla Walla County, Index to Deed, Vol. 1-3, 1919, 1928.

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date entered

Continuation sheet

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east line thereof to the southeast corner of said Lot 12; thence west along the south line of said Lot 12, a distance of 19.96 feet; thence north 7° 55' west 123.53 feet to a point on the northerly line of said Lot 12, thence northeasterly and along the northerly line of said Lot 12 to the point of beginning.