

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| |
|---------------------------|
| STATE: Washington |
| COUNTY: Whatcom |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |
| ENTRY DATE NOV 21 1974 |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Bacon, George H., ~~Home for Boys~~ *Home*

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Bacon Home [preferred]

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2001 Eldridge Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Bellingham

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
#2 - Honorable Lloyd Meeds

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Whatcom CODE: 073

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____ |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Corporation of the Archdiocese of Seattle, Washington

STREET AND NUMBER:
1715 East Cherry Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Seattle

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Whatcom County Auditor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
Whatcom County Court House

CITY OR TOWN:
Bellingham

STATE:
Washington

CODE:
53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County

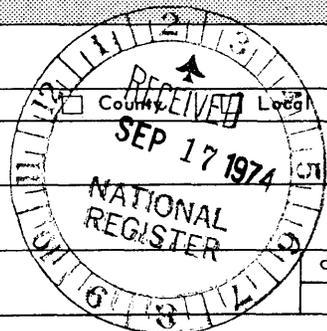
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The George H. Bacon home is a white, temple-form house built in 1906 and somewhat similar in style and proportion to the temple-form houses constructed repeatedly in the southern and eastern parts of the United States in the first half of the 19th Century. It is a two and a half story wood frame building, rectangular in plan, with three inch clapboard siding. The ridge of its simple gable roof is on the longer axis and is perpendicular to the street. The front or east face is a pedimented portico supported by four free standing wooden box columns. The pediment is the gable end of the single main roof where it overhangs the front of the building forming the portico. Column capitals and bases are built up from mouldings, and there are panel recesses on all sides. False columns are placed at the four corners of the enclosed building. There are two more on the side walls near the back, where they might have occurred had there been a similar portico at the rear of the house. These mark the beginning of an enclosed second floor sleeping porch added soon after the completion of the house. An entablature begins above the free-standing columns that continue around the building uninterrupted except for where one chimney projects a few inches roughly half way back on the south wall. A low railing runs between the columns around the portico perimeter with an opening centered before the front door. This railing height is of roughly the same dimension as the frieze above it, with a solid infill of clapboards matching the rest.

The main entrance is centered in front with two narrow sidelights and a crowning fanlight. Overhanging above the door is a second floor balcony with decorative balustrade that extends forward to the two central columns where its width fits in between and the columns provide support. Access to the balcony is through a Palladian doorway, (round headed with lower sidelights). Centered in the pediment is a semi-circular wheel window.

The remaining windows are a mixture of double hung, side pivoting and multipane types. Four are large and symmetrically distributed on either side of the front, one to a floor. On the south face, four windows are symmetrically arranged around the exposed chimney, with another toward the front at an interior stair landing. On the north they are randomly placed.

There are two chimneys, one exposed at the south wall and the other roughly centered in the roof slope on the opposite side. They terminate at the top with different decorative masonry, although both have dentils to match the others in the pediment and the entablature below.

The house has always been white. Asphalt shingles have replaced the original cedar roof, and a small porch enclosure has been added to the kitchen near the back. The front of the house is unaltered.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| STATE Washington | |
| COUNTY Whatcom | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | NOV 21 1974 |

(Number all entries)

#7 - Description
Bacon Home

From a small entrance hall, the large living room runs the length of the house with a fireplace at one side and a picture window at the rear overlooking Bellingham Bay. The fireplace was built with a front of soft green glazed ceramic tiles that have since been painted white. A staircase near the entrance leads to the second floor with a stairwell two stories high. At right angles to the living room is a dining room with a second fireplace. Except for painting there has been no change in this room. The fireplace (now white) was originally brown tile. At the rear of the dining room is a small powder room with modern plumbing. Parallel to the living room is the kitchen. Originally the kitchen was divided by a butler's pantry which no longer exists. A staircase goes from there to the basement, and another leads to the second floor. A long hall runs down the middle of the second floor, and off it are four bedrooms and a bathroom. The attic is one finished room. There is a full concrete basement, which was formerly a combined furnace room and laundry. It is now finished in knotty pine with furnace and laundry rooms smaller than original.

The grounds, on a bluff overlooking Bellingham Bay, were once twice as deep as they are now because considerable erosion has taken place. In the front yard is a large butternut tree which was planted by George and Mable Bacon when they built the house in 1906.



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1906

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The George H. Bacon residence was designed in 1906 by Henry Bacon, architect for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Henry Bacon, George's first cousin, gave him the plans as a wedding present.

George Bacon came to Whatcom County from Champaign, Illinois, in 1889, at the age of 23. He settled in Whatcom, now part of Bellingham, and became a pioneer realtor and financier of home owners' loans, particularly for farms in Whatcom and Skagit Counties. He also invested in property, logging, and shingle mills. He was a community leader, a city councilman during 1890's and he became the last mayor of New Whatcom. The consolidation of Whatcom, Sehome and Fairhaven districts made up the present city of Bellingham. In later years he was the manager of Bellingham Bay Improvement Company, an early development concern. His wife, Mabel Donovan Bacon, was born locally in Sehome the oldest child of Charles and Sarah Crockett Donovan, pioneers. Charles Donovan was the first American telegrapher on Bellingham Bay. Mrs. Bacon was one of the early teachers in Whatcom County and a cultural leader all her life. She served on the Bellingham library board for 20 years and under four different mayors. The library honored her by having her lay the corner stone of the present Bellingham library. The Bacons had three children.

The house was foreclosed by the Home Owner's Loan Corporation in 1938. Since then it has had a succession of owners, the last the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle, under whose auspices the Catholic Children's Services is operating a group home for boys.

As determined by available information there are no other buildings in the Northwest designed by Henry Bacon. His Lincoln Memorial has been mentioned by Whiffen and other historians as being a noteworthy and conspicuous representative of the Neo-Classical Revival period in American architecture. The use of classical detailing can be costly when applied to residential scale frame buildings; however, in this house Bacon has achieved quite a grand effect with surprising economy through no specifications requiring expensive materials or difficult techniques.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bacon, George H. Booming & Panicking on Puget Sound. Whatcom Museum of History and Art, 1970.

Edson, Lelah Jackson, The Fourth Corner, Whatcom Museum of History and Art, Bellingham, Washington, 1968.

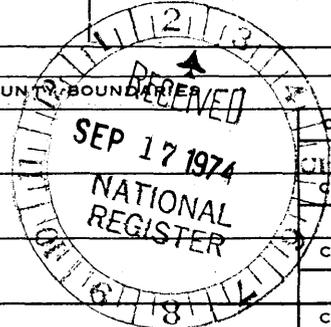
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 48 ° 45 ' 33 " | 122 ° 29 ' 42 " | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Frances Bacon Roberts (daughter of George & Mabel Bacon)

ORGANIZATION: Catholic Children's Services DATE: Oct. 26, '72

STREET AND NUMBER: Mason Building, Holly Street

CITY OR TOWN: Bellingham STATE: Washington CODE: 53

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Charles H. Odegaard
Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director-Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date Sept. 13, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AR Westman
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/21/74

ATTEST:

Wm. M. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date 11.20.74