

1520

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

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Site No. 34-53 OAHF No. _____ Date Recorded 3/18/85 revised 8/87
Site Name Historic L.N. Rice House
Common n/a
Field Recorder ss/tc
Owner's Name James Mosman
Address 12247 Vail Road S.E.
City/State/Zip Code Yelm, WA 98597

LOCATION SECTION

Address 12247 Vail Road S.E.
City/Town/County/Zip Code Yelm vicinity/Thurston/98597
Twp 17N Range 2E Section 32 1/4 Section SE 1/4 Section SE
Tax No./Parcel No. 22732440100 Acreage 2 acres
Quadrangle or map name McKenna 7.5
UTM References Zone 10 Easting 532580 Northing 5194960
Plat/Block/Lot See verbal boundary description
Supplemental Map(s) n/a

Status

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

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Neg. No. 3s-3,4,5,6
(Roll No. & Frame No.)
View of east, west, south facades;
interior
Date 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

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is a rectangular parcel located on tax parcel 22732440100 and is described thusly: beginning at a point 300 feet west of Vail Loop Road and 50 feet north of the 16 North Township line, proceed approximately 100 feet west, 100 feet north, 100 feet east, and 100 feet south to point of beginning.

Verbal Boundary Justification: The nominated property includes only the Lewis Rice House. Other structures are excluded from the nomination because historic research was unable to verify their age or associations. The nearby orchard and well are also excluded because they are associated with the earlier occupancy of James Longmire.

Contributing Resources: One
Noncontributing Resources: 0

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Materials & Features/Structural Types

Building Type Domestic/Residence
Plan Square
Structural System Wood Frame
No. of Stories Two 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 Concrete
- Post & Pier Block
- Stone Poured
- Brick Other (specify) _____
- Not visible

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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) _____

Vernacular House Types

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

NARRATIVE SECTION

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

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" 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 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 1908 Architect/Engineer/Builder L.N. Rice 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: 1908-1937

In the opinion of the surveyor, this property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local).

The Lewis Rice House is historically significant for its association with a prominent stockman and agricultural leader in northeastern Thurston County. In addition to his stock business, Rice was a founder of the Yelm Irrigation Company which built a canal and branch watering system after the turn of the century. Built on the site of the house of his father-in-law, pioneer James Longmire, the property includes only Rice's well-preserved American Foursquare house; Longmire's original house burned in 1906.

James Longmire came from his home in Indiana in 1853 across the plains and was a member of the first party through the Naches Pass over the Cascade Mountains. Longmire purchased land nearby and later took out a Donation Land Claim at this site. Longmire became well respected among both whites and Indians. During the Indian Uprising of 1855-56, Chief Quiemuth surrendered to Longmire at the site of the Rice House. Longmire was a prominent politician and early explorer of Mount Rainier where he founded a resort. He died in 1897 and his house burned in 1906. No other buildings associated with Longmire are extant. His daughter Melissa and son-in-law Rice completed the new house two years after the Longmire house burned.

Lewis N. Rice came West in 1872 on a cattle drive and worked his way as a drover and butcher to the Olympia area. He worked in Seattle, Portland, and Yakima before settling in Yelm in 1903. Rice was a leading stockman and horseman who bred and raised horses for area logging operations during the early 20th century. (continued)

Description of Physical Appearance

Situated on a rise overlooking a pond and James Longmire's original orchard to the north, the Rice House, two and one-half miles southeast of Yelm, is a two-story wood frame structure built in the American Foursquare Style resting on a poured concrete foundation. The hip roof is covered with composition shingles and terminates in a plain boxed cornice. The roofline is broken by hip-roofed dormers on the front (east) and rear facades and by two central chimneys. Walls are clad with drop siding and cornerboards. An open porch wraps around the east and north facades, its hip roof supported by turned posts. The porch shelters the main entry door on the front and the north side kitchen door as well as the hand-dug well remaining from the Longmire house. The south and rear facades feature one-story polygonal bays with prominent cornices and shed roofs. Fenestration consists of tall narrow double-hung sash with one-over-one lights and plain surrounds and paired double-hung sash in the dormers. To the rear of the house is a later one-story outbuilding originally used as a woodshed and kitchen which has some newer aluminum sash. Several other outbuildings are located on the property, but are not included in the nomination because research has not verified their dates of construction or their historical associations. Likewise, the orchard has been excluded because it was developed before Rice's residency.

The house retains its original interior spaces and woodwork with slight modifications in the kitchen. The exterior of the house remains intact.

Major Bibliographic References

- Interviews with James Mosman, William Mosman and Ruth Mosman Heermans.
"Narrative of James Longmire," Told by the Pioneers, Vol. 1, pp. 12-1143, Washington Pioneer Project, 1937.
"Louis N. Rice," Told by the Pioneers, Vol. 3, pp. 76-78, Washington Pioneer Project, 1937.
Obituary for Lewis N. Rice, Nisqually Valley News, March 15, 1945, pg. 1.
Prescott, Edga. Early Yelm, Folly Press, Tacoma, 1979.
Rice, Marie Bauer. James Longmire: His Life, His family, Printed by the Longmire Family of Washington, 1982.

LEWIS RICE HOUSE

Significance (continued):

In 1910, Rice helped found the Yelm Irrigation Company. The company was formed to build a canal and a series of flumes and ditches from the Nisqually River to irrigate the Yelm area. One of the few irrigation districts in Western Washington, the ditch opened in 1916 bringing water to a district encompassing 4,350 acres. The irrigated land was planted in berries and small vegetables. The company disbanded in 1954. Virtually unaltered, the house has remained in the Rice family since its construction.