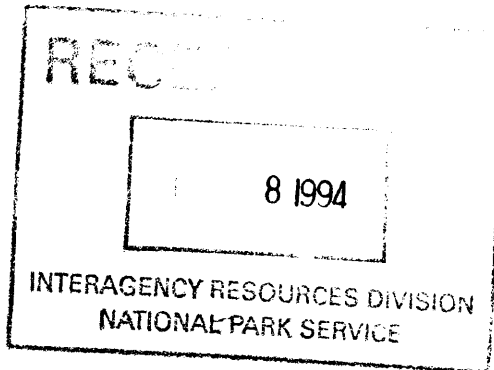


NPS Form 10-900  
OMB No. 1024-0018  
(Rev. 10/90)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Adam Catlin House  
other names/site number "Catlin Place;" Stegner residence

2. Location

street & number 202 Northwest Second Avenue not for publication  
city or town Kelso vicinity  
state Washington code WA county Cowlitz code 015 zip code 98626

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary M. Thompson 10/12/94  
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary Thompson, State Historic Preservation Officer  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Edson R. Beall 12.9.94

for Entered in the National Register  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action



Property Name Adam Catlin House

County and State Cowlitz, Washington

**8. Statement of Significance**

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Exploration/Settlement  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1885-1890  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1885  
1889  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

Adam Catlin

Architect/Builder

\_\_\_\_\_

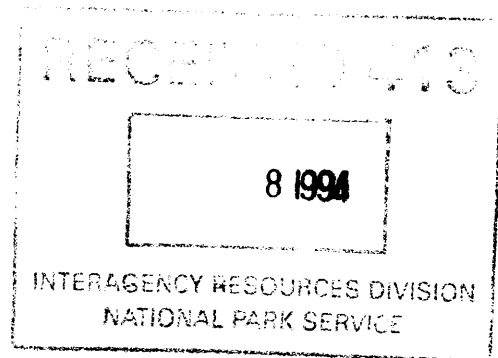
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)



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Continuation Sheet**

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Name of Property Adam Catlin House  
County and State Cowlitz Co., WA



Built around 1885, the Adam Catlin House is an example of classic box or Foursquare residential design. Located adjacent to a small commercial core, the house is situated within the earliest residential neighborhood of former Marysville. A generous lawn frames the north side of the property; a newer garage built by the neighboring property owner and sited on the property line, is visually obtrusive to the nominated subject. Several homes of historic distinction include a small, two-story, side-gabled home with original shingle siding and bracketed porch, located across the street; a large, side-gabled home with infilled porch to the southeast; and a well-restored Victorian home which is listed in the National Register..

The Catlin House is a full, two-story plan, with an elongation of the hipped roof to the rear. The original post-and-beam foundation was replaced by a concrete and brick foundation, which provides for a functional basement area. The building occupies two lots at 202 Northwest Second Avenue, and faces west. Although there is an unusually high water table in the area the basement remains dry. The nearby towns of Kelso and Longview are located on drained marshland, protected from flooding rivers by a system of dikes and drainage slegs.

Siding consists of drop siding on both the original and rear extension of the house. The building and its front-facing, single dormer are oriented west. The main floor windows are double-hung sash fitted with storm windows. Stylistically restrained, the only ornamentation is found in plain corner trim boards and window casings, and on the hipped-roof porch. Supported by turned columns, the porch is framed by a simple railing of turned balusters. Columns are capped by decorative millwork brackets; second-story window heads and corner board tops have been fitted with applied brackets of identical design. These brackets, not originally found on the house, were inspired by the property across the street and added in the 1985 renovation.

Approximately two hundred feet to the south of the Catlin house is the ornate "Smith House," which is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Adam Catlin was related to the Smiths through marriage. When the area was first settled, the

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Catlins and Smiths were among the first five, non-native families in the area. An earlier home of Adam Catlin survives nearby at 305 First Avenue West.

The above mentioned homes, including the Adam Catlin residence, were identified in the Historical Structures Inventory of 1980, prepared by the Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Governmental Conference. The inventory addressed properties with distinctive architectural styles, age, or historical importance.

Official property records for the town of Marysville are missing or are no longer available, thereby making an exact date of construction for the Catlin House difficult to determine. Oral histories report that Adam and Mary Catlin built the house around 1885, moving in after they sold the modest house on 305 First Avenue. The subject of nomination was either traded or given to Adam Catlin as a large parcel of land in 1885 by his brother, Charles Catlin. Since the Catlins were farmers by tradition, much of the property was farmed and planted in orchards.

The following is a list of property homeowners since the Donation Land Claim made by Seth Catlin.

Adam and Mary Catlin	1885 - 1890
Alace Bodine	1890
William Holsapple	1902
M. J. Kittering	1903
George Poland	1921
Nicole Sanseri	1927
Catherine Colarco	1931
Joseph & Della Miller	1948
Della Curtis Miller	1955
Cora Louise Addicks	1964
Therron Sweet	1968
Fern Sweet	1971
Melvin Slocum	1976
James Russell	1977
Robert Collins	1982
Frank Swanberg	1991
Frederick & Carolyn Stegner	1993

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Name of Property Adam Catlin House  
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As time passed the house fell into disrepair and near ruin, until 1982. The new owners began a rehabilitation in 1985. Because little of the interior had survived, remodeling was extensive. Main floor work consisted of all new moldings and casings and doors. All woodwork is of native fir, as was typical of the period, and includes bullseye door accents. New carpet and vinyl flooring was installed throughout, as well as a new full bath. The updated kitchen was completely remodeled with new cabinets, counters, vinyl flooring and built-in appliances. New doorway casings with plinth corners common to the Victorian period of the 1880s were added to passageways throughout the house. Interior walls were papered with styles dating to the late nineteenth century. Rotted out windows were replaced with double insulated glass units.

The foyer features a wood parquet floor and a new pressed tin ceiling of Victorian design. V-notch waincoting on foyer walls and staircase, and decorative doorway brackets were added in 1985. The second floor contains six bedrooms with one full bath. Entrance to the basement is by way of a staircase within the rear family room of the house. New central air and heat, and a heat pump are found in the basement. The house was originally heated by a stove located in the dining room, its chimney still running up the south side of the house.

New wiring with 200 amp service was installed. All plumbing was replaced with additional access for plumbing hookups in the basement. Where walls and flooring on the main level exhibited extreme rot, high quality clear timber was used sparingly. The second floor still maintains the original fir slat flooring. Light fixtures characteristic of the late nineteenth century were installed throughout the house.

Prior to the 1985 rehabilitation, the porch railing and columns had been boxed in to reflect a Craftsman-era design. Rehabilitation work removed the applied materials to reveal mostly intact columns and railings. Some members had to be replaced. The house is currently painted white with black trim. The original front door, a single wood leaf with glass insert, was removed to a second floor bathroom for security purposes. A heavy black grate security door now protects the front door. The front door lintel was embellished

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with a broken, scrolled pediment, which lends a Colonial Revival character.

The chimney was capped in the 1980s when the roof was re-shingled with asphalt shingles. The kitchen chimney was removed in the 1980s, the original brick now serving as the garden walkway in back of the house. This walkway encompasses a section of the backyard that was originally used as a community well.

On the north side of the house is a covered deck or porch that extends out from the side door. This side door and flanking double-hung sash window are new. The deck roof, which features a skylight with a hipped roof that matches the profile of the house, was installed in 1993.

The only major alteration of the house occurred in the 1920s when the formerly square plan was elongated to the rear, thereby extending the hipped roof and adding space and additional windows.

The landscaping around the house hosts many species of flora, most notable of which are the old roses brought over with the pioneers that are over one hundred years old. A cedar fence fully encloses the entire property.



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The Adam Catlin House is associated with Adam Catlin and his efforts to found the community of Marysville between 1885-1890. Known regionally as the "Catlin Place," the home was a frequent destination for travelers passing up and down along the Cowlitz River, and was a highly visible stop between the Willamette Valley and Puget Sound. Most importantly, the home was inhabited by Adam Catlin and his family during the period in which Marysville sprouted into a regional supply center for trade and timber enterprises. Preserved after a low-impact renovation of the exterior, the simple yet associative architectural character of the house speaks of the significant era in which it was built.

Adam Catlin was born in St. Clair County, Illinois in 1842. In 1848 his family crossed the plains with an Oregon Trail party, eventually arriving in Milwaukie, Oregon. The family remained there a short time until 1849 when Seth Catlin, Adam's father, decided to pursue a land claim of 640 acres on the Cowlitz River, just north of the present-day, Washington-Oregon border. This claim extended from the present-day Hotel Monticello in Longview and east to the Cowlitz River, encompassing much of what is now downtown Longview, Washington. With the arrival of the Catlin family only five non-Native families inhabited Old Monticello -- which was eventually renamed Longview.

Seth Catlin was an ardent Jeffersonian Democrat, having served two terms as state senator in Illinois, beginning in 1842. Recognizing the need for a separate territory north of the Columbia River, Seth and others convened the first convention for territorial separation at Cowlitz Landing in 1851. At a second Monticello Convention in 1852, Seth served as temporary chairman and one of thirteen to compose the memorial resolution which resulted in the creation of the Washington Territory.

The path-breaking work of Seth Catlin during the settlement period was fully realized in the later endeavors of his son, Adam. Building on his father's inspiration, Adam Catlin began a farm operation and concurrent land speculation. Adam Catlin's growing stature in the community is evidenced by his early public service, having been elected Cowlitz County Road Supervisor for District #3 (1867); clerk of School District #1 (1877); and a member of the

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Washington Territorial legislature (1881). Adam Catlin married Mary Galloway Catlin on May 4, 1875. They had four children, James, Charles, Ernest and Mary T. Catlin.

Little is known of the Catlin farm specifically, aside from its emphasis on potato-growing, apple orchards and livestock raising. Pictured in a 1910 photograph of the nominated property, these agricultural components reflect the broader pattern of farming in the area. The Columbia River and Cowlitz River valleys contained rich bottomland and pastureland, and locally grown and unprocessed wheat was shipped up the Columbia River to Vancouver for milling. As a major supply center for nearby logging communities, the region provided staples for these efforts, as well as much-sought-after potatoes for gold miners in California.

Adam Catlin seized upon the area's sterling potential. In 1889, he and his wife Mary founded a new community called Marysville. Nearby Kelso, as well as Monticello, Old Monticello and Freeport were located in low-lying areas subject to frequent flooding. The siting of Marysville on the highest point of the flood plain was a practical choice which enabled more efficient service to four area logging camps. Situated directly across from Kelso, the new community also provided greater convenience to business leaders who had dealings across the Cowlitz River. Rail service to nearby Kelso ensured that Marysville could receive and transmit freight, and the Kelso-Catlin ferry, formerly located at the base of the Allen Street bridge, provided another vital link between the two.

Marysville thrived as a separate community until just after the turn of the century. As Marysville grew, the city of Freeport, located just south, declined and Marysville became the new landing for all steamboat traffic up and down the Cowlitz and Columbia Rivers. A major dry goods operation, the Oliff Olson Store, was chief supplier for the population west of the Cowlitz River, and for a time, Marysville claimed three shingle mills and was also a packing center for fish shipped up and down the Columbia River.

In 1893, the town was renamed Catlin after efforts to establish a Post Office uncovered another Marysville in Washington state. Eventually, Marysville's (Catlin) status was overshadowed by

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railroad-buttressed Kelso, and on September 18, 1907, the citizens of Catlin voted to consolidate with Kelso.

Adam his wife and four children lived in the house from about 1885 until they sold it in 1890. Adam Catlin's interest in property speculation probably accounts for their frequent change of residences from 1882, until they left for Portland in 1893. The family bought, sold and traded properties within the family quite regularly.

Thereafter known as "Catlin Place," the property was mostly a private residence between the 1930s and 1940s, when it was used as a boarding house. Oral accounts suggest that the house was rented on weekends to loggers who came down by train each weekend after a rough week in the woods north of Kelso. At that time, West Kelso had a reputation as a "Red Light" district and was even called "Little Chicago" by many.

Adam Catlin lived in the nominated property at 202 NW 2nd Avenue at the time he established Marsyville. As a farm operation the property had lesser importance, evidenced by the lack of documentation regarding any outbuildings. The house, however, remains an indicator of the local prominence of its owner who, like his father, made significant contributions to the settlement period. Adam and Mary had previously lived at a more modest house at 305 NW 1st Avenue, until they constructed the nominated home in 1882. Still standing today, the small, gabled-roofed house possesses good integrity but lacks the architectural stature of the later home that witnessed the founding of Marsyville.

Adam and Mary Catlin moved to Portland in 1893 and remained there until Adam's death in 1907. Adam died on October 14, 1907 aboard the Steamer Kellogg, on his way from Portland to Catlin to see his new born grandson, James. James Catlin, grandson of Adam, and son of James now lives in Black Diamond, Washington and is eighty-seven years old. Adam Catlin had five brothers and two sisters, at his death. At the time, two brothers were living in Portland, Charles Catlin, and the well known Judge John Catlin, who was a well-respected county judge for many years in the late 1890s.

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Adam Catlin was buried in 1907 at Catlin Cemetery in Catlin, Washington, his body moved in 1924 to the Portland Crematorium to be next to his wife, Mary. The nominated property in Kelso remains a tangible and well-preserved link to Adam Catlin's critical role in establishing the early community that bore his wife's name.

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Kelso, Washington

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Cowlitz County Assessors Records, Cowlitz County Courthouse  
Kelso, Washington

Ticor Title Company, 1312 Vandercook Way  
Longview, Washington 98632

Cowlitz County Historical Museum  
405 Allen Street, Kelso, Washington

James & Virginia Catlin, P.O. Box 696  
Black Diamond, Washington 98010-0616

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Verbal Boundary Description

The property is a square parcel measuring 100 x 100 feet. The property comprises two lots, Lot 7 and 8. Both measure 50 x 100 feet, the house consuming all of Lot 7, south of lot 8.

Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel is consistent with the urban legal description that has always been associated with the property.