

# HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

State of Washington  
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
111 W. 21st Ave. KL-11  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(206) 753-5010

## IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Site No.: 225  
Site Name: Historic FIRST DEXTER HOUSE  
Common Swanson Home  
Field Recorder: NC/ER  
Date Recorded: 10-29-85  
Owner's Name: Dee Swanson  
Street: 515 S. Fourth  
City/Town: Dayton  
County: Columbia  
Zip Code: 99328

Status:  
National Register   
State Register   
Survey/Inventory   
Determined Eligible   
Other (NHL, HABS, HAER) Indicate

Classification Date:  
District   
Site   
Building   
Structure   
Object

## LOCATION SECTION

Street Number 515 S. Fourth PRIMARY  
City/Town Dayton Zip Code 99328  
County Col. Twp. 10N Range 39E Sect 30 1/4 Sect \_\_\_\_\_ 1/4 Sect \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax No./Parcel No. 05-074-0000  
UTM References Dayton Zone 11 Easting 425 200 Northing 51 29 660  
USGS Map - Dayton 7.5

A fraction of the SE 1/4 of  
the NE 1/4 of Section 30,  
T 10 N R 39 E  
Less than 1 acre.

See continuation sheet for VBD

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Neg. No.: 2+28  
(Roll No. + Frame No.)  
View: West facade  
Date: 10-29-85



## DESCRIPTION SECTION

### Materials & Features/Structural Types:

Roof Material: Wood Shingle  Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle  Slate  Tar  Metal (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Roof Type: Gable  Hip  Flat  Monitor  Gambrel  Shed

Foundation: Log  Post & Pier  Stone  Concrete  Block  Poured  Brick  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Style/Form: (Check one or more of the following)

Pioneer/Homestead  Dutch Colonial   
Greek Revival  Spanish Colonial   
Gothic Revival  English Revival   
Italianate  Bungalow   
Second Empire  Craftsman   
Stick/Eastlake  American Foursquare/  
Queen Anne  Classic Box   
Shingle Style  Prairie Style   
Richardsonian Romanesque  Art Deco/Moderne   
Chicago School/  
Sullivan-esque  Vernacular   
Beau Arts Classicism  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_   
Princess Anne   
Neo-Colonial

### Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces):

Log   
Horizontal Wood Siding { Rustic/Novelty  Clapboard

Wood Shingle { Split Shakes  Re-sawn  Machine Shingle

Height/No. of Stories:  
One   
One and one-half   
Two   
Two and one-half   
Three   
Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Asbestos/Asphalt Shingle   
Brick Masonry  **Dexter**   
Stone Masonry   
Stucco   
Terra Cotta   
Carrara Glass   
Vinyl/Aluminum Siding   
Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Integrity: (include detailed description in 'Additional Description' section)

Additions to house plan   
Changes to windows   
Changes to roof shape   
Changes to interior plan   
Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Intact	Slight	Moderate	Excessive
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additions were done very early.

# NARRATIVE SECTION

Area of Significance/Study Unit Themes: (check one or more of the following)

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

Statement of Significance: (Reference names, dates, events, areas of significance/study unit themes)

Date of Construction: c. 1872; remodelled 1880  
 Architect/Builder: A.J. Dexter (c. 1880)  
 Historical Significance:

The First Dexter House is the most significant example of Gothic Revival in Dayton and one of the finest examples of the style in southeastern Washington. The home is distinguished by Downingesque design, including steeply pitched gables, arched windows, and decorative porch. A.J. Dexter owned the local brickyard and supplied brick for several houses as well as many stores in the commercial district.

Additional Description of Physical Appearance & Significant Architectural Features: (Architectural significance; can include interior & site features; address integrity issues specifically)

Located on large lot with five huge pine trees across front and large fir tree in yard. Steeply pitched roof with steep cross gables. Wood frame with brick siding. Original part of house is on right in photo. Later addition (done early on) is of Dexter brick. The partial one story porch is supported by flattened Gothic arches on either end. Gothic arch windows with brick drop mold labels in later addition, and wooden one made to look like brick in old part. Rest of windows are double hung one over one, except for projecting bay, with 3 large flat arch windows, 2 over 2 double hung and topped with brick label. House is in poor shape; brick is deteriorated and windows need replacing. This house was built during 1872, with the Dexter's building on after they purchased it. Close inspection confirms this. Note y shaped brick front walk.

Major Bibliographic References: (Include books, periodicals, manuscripts, newspapers, legal documents, maps, photos, oral sources, etc.)

1. Columbia County Assessor's records show house built in 1872.
2. Columbia County Title records
3. Dayton House Quilt by Broughton & Rainwater, 1978.
4. Walla Walla Union Bulletin, 1969.
5. Western Publishing Co., "History of S.E. Washington," 1906.
6. 1885 Inland Empire Directory.

**HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

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Site No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name:

Historic  
Common

First Dexter House

Date:

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated proeprty is a rectangle described thusly: beginning at a point approximately 125 feet north of the NE corner of Hanna Street and South Fourth Street (at the northeast corner of the alley and Fourth St.) proceed approximately 132 feet in a northwesterly direction; proceed 270 feet in a northeasterly direction; proceed 132 feet in a southeastern direction; proceed 270 feet in a southwesterly direction to point of beginning.