

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

1. NAME

Historic

✓ Senator William Bishop House and Office

and/or Common

Brown House

2. LOCATION

UTM References:

Zone 10 Easting 517300

Northing 5317305

Street & Number

✓ Chimacum-Center Road

- not for publication

City, Town

✓ Chimacum

- vicinity of

State

Washington

County

Jefferson

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership: public private both

Status: occupied unoccupied work in progress

Present Use: agriculture commercial educational entertainment government

industrial military museum park private residence

religious scientific transportation other: storage

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name

Basil Gene Brown

Street & Number

P.O. Box 343

City, Town

Chimacum

- vicinity of

State

Washington 98325

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bishop, Kathleen Adams. Personal Communication. January, 1983.

Hunt, Gerald. Washington--West of the Cascades, Vol. II. S.J. Clark Publishing Co., Chicago, 1917.

Jefferson County Historical Society. With Pride in Heritage. Professional Pub. Printing, Inc., Portland, 1966.

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title

David B. Stalheim

Organization

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Date

February 1983

Street & Number

111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11

Telephone

(206) 753-7442

City or Town

Olympia

State

Washington 98504

7. DESCRIPTION

Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed
Circle one: unaltered altered
Circle one: original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance
attach photo

Located on a prominent knoll at Chimacum Corners is the Senator William Bishop House. Adjacent to the house is the business office that Bishop used to keep records on his prosperous and prominent dairy farm.

In 1898 Bishop purchased his five hundred acre ranch at Chimacum from Reuben S. Robinson, the first white settler in the Chimacum Valley. According to one source (Kathleen Bishop, January, 1983), Robinson had a home on the ranch that may have been incorporated into the present structure. The dwelling went through several remodels up until Bishop's death in 1934.

The basic plan of the house is T-shaped. The house is almost entirely clad in milled rustic siding with wood shingles on the roof. The front portion of the house, the part visible from the road, has classical and bungalow details. The roof is hipped with a shed roof dormer facing the front. Massive columns on sculptured concrete piers support the

Verbal boundary description: Sec. 14, Township 29 North,
Range 1 West, W.M. Tax Parcel #901-14-2001

Acreage: less than one

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Specific dates	c. 1900	Builder/Architect	unknown
----------------	---------	-------------------	---------

a. History

William Bishop, Jr., was born on September 9, 1861, the second son of Chimacum pioneer William Bishop, Sr. When the iron works at Irondale first begun, fir trees were burned to charcoal in large pits at Chimacum. As a young man, Bishop drove a two-horse team carrying the charcoal to Irondale. This method of obtaining charcoal was quickly abandoned and Bishop returned to his father's farm. In 1890 Bishop took up a government claim in Clallam County. Soon afterward he entered into the logging business with S.L. Hall; the company known as Hall and Bishop was active for twenty years. Although Bishop retained his interest in the logging business, in 1898 he moved back to Chimacum and purchased five hundred acres--formerly owned by Reuben S. Robinson. Bishop established a herd of purebred Holstein-Friesian cattle, known as the Puget Sound Herd, and his ranch was called the Chimacum Stock Farm. In 1899, Bishop was elected to the State House of Representatives.

b. Evaluation of Significance

The Senator William Bishop House and Farm Office are significant because of their association with the life of William Bishop, Jr.,--a leading political figure and dairyman in Washington State's history. Bishop's herd won the world's record for fine stock at the San Francisco Exposition. In 1916, a cow in his herd, Lutscke Vale Cornucopia, completed a world's record thirty-one thousand, three hundred and forty-nine pounds of milk, from which was made one thousand pounds of butter. Bishop was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Holstein-Friesian Stock Association in 1916; at the time, the association was the largest purebred stock organization in the country, and Bishop was the only trustee from the West. Bishop was an honorary member of the Washington State Board of Agriculture and

Description (continued)

main roof and the roof of the veranda which surrounds the house on three sides. Between 1912 and 1916, a local contractor, William Sehrs, enclosed the southeast corner of the veranda; this area became part of the library. At the same time, a finely crafted stone fireplace and exterior chimney with corbeled cap were added to the library.

The rear portion of the house has a gabled roof bellcast on the south side. Part of the bellcast has been enclosed--the remainder is open porch. A shed roof dormer is on the south-facing roofline. There are three doorways on the gable end: one to the upstairs living quarters (for hired help) and the other two to the main floor. There is an exterior chimney on the north side, and an enclosed shed roof extension.

Fine woodwork decorates many areas of the interior. Wood columns on half-walls define living and dining areas. A built-in china closet is in the dining room. Turned railings, spindles, and newel posts, are displayed in an open staircase. The library has a lower, intimate ceiling, with decorative woodwork employed throughout.

Bishop's office is in a separate building adjacent to the main house. The original office has a hipped roof with milled rustic siding. The doorway is located on the west end. An addition with beveled siding was added after William Bishop's death but does not significantly alter the integrity of the original office. The old safe still sits in the office although the building is no longer actively used.

History (continued)

With the exception of three terms, Bishop served in either the House or Senate until his death in 1934.

Evaluation of Significance (continued)

elected to the Board of Trustees of the Holstein-Friesian Stock Association in 1916; at the time, the association was the largest purebred stock organization in the country, and Bishop was the only trustee from the West. Bishop was an honorary member of the Washington State Board of Agriculture and the eleventh member to be elected to the Washington Purebred Dairy Cattle Association Hall of Fame. Bishop was also active in his local community--he was school district clerk of Hadlock-Chimacum in 1918. The architecture of Bishop's house also warrants mention; there are formal elements incorporated in the architecture, something extremely rare in Jefferson County farmhouse construction.