

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Van Dellen, John and Murta, House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 400 East Eighth Street N/A not for publication
city, town The Dalles N/A vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Wasco code 065 zip code 97058

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
James M. Hamrick December 31, 1990
Signature of certifying official Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. 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): _____
Alvina Byers 2/20/91
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Entered in the
National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American
Movements: Craftsman Bungalow

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls wood: weatherboard
roof asphalt: composition shingle
other brick trim and chimney

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The Van Dellen house is located on 8th and Federal Streets in The Dalles, Oregon. The road in front (8th) was called Alvord street at the time of construction in 1920. This area was the high class location in town at that time. The street still has all of the old houses on it.

The house was built by the lumber yard owner who spared no expense to build this 1½ story home with a full basement. The house was built on top of rock and hence was elevated above the street level. A concrete wall was built along the sidewalk on the west and north sides and fill dirt/sand was used to fill the void. The cut out rectangular house has multiple corners and a top story set in on three sides of the lower story.

The house has 57 windows, multiple doors and such features as cedar sub-flooring and roof sheathing. The pitch of the roof is low and in places is nearly flat. The front of the house has a covered porch with large brick pillars and wide concrete steps leading to it from the sidewalk in two sections.

The home had the latest features such as an electric range in the kitchen and the ice box had a plumbed in drain. A day servant was employed for the frequent dinners and had her own room in the back near the kitchen. The front room and dining rooms were built with large false beams, much like the local Elks lodge. The dining room has a silver light fixture in the center and two matching ones over the built in cabinets.

A large tiled fireplace was built in the living room and the plaster walls were done in a blue stipple. Hardwood floors are found throughout the house and the wide abundant woodwork is in stained softwood (probably Douglas Fir)

The garage was designed for the latest automobiles and was a "double" garage. The yard was expensively landscaped and the back yard was fenced with a wood fence built primarily out of 2x2's.

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This home is currently occupied by the Fred Krauss family . Fred is the superintendent of the Wasco Education Service District which is the county office formerly the County School Superintendent's office.

The home is in excellent condition and is being maintained in nearly original form. The exterior is particularly in the original condition as when built. No remodeling, or additions to the home have been made.

The house faces North on a lot which has streets on the North and West sides. Short concrete walls are next to the sidewalks and are topped with ivy covered fences.

The neighborhood is made up of mostly single family homes and has much of its historical character still remaining.

The house has a low pitched roof with wide overhanging eaves and exposed rafters which have been curved. It is of a rectangular composition with horizontal earth-hugging qualities. It has a massive appearance however from the street side as it is built up to avoid having to dig down through rock for the full concrete floored basement.

The windows are mainly double hung with several other windows being fixed or hopper type. Several windows are also sash type and often are flanked by two smaller windows. These are all original.

This wood frame house has a large open front porch, a small, formerly screened in, back porch and a small balcony on the second story. The front porch is indented into the main house and is supported by a massive brick tapered porch post. The house also has a large sunroom located upstairs on the south side.

The siding is wood (original) clapboard and the trim is of wide wood.

The interior of the home has many typical bungalow features. The dining room has wood-panelled walls to the plate-rail and built in cabinets. A major feature in the front room and dining room are the boxed in beams which are also found in some of the old public buildings in The Dalles. The woodwork is of earth tone and has been retained throughout most of the house.

The home is currently decorated and furnished in the style of the times, in part with several Mission type items. Many of the original light fixtures remain and are of particular interest. The silver plated ones in the dining room are of particular interest.

The bathrooms have been maintained with their original fixtures and house features with only a couple of exceptions.

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The floors of the house are hardwood over cedar which gives them a distinctive sound as one walks through the house. In the bathrooms the linoleums have a base of concrete.

The interior walls are plaster as are the ceilings except where water damage required that they be replaced. The kitchen ceiling has been lowered and sheetrocked also. The ceilings and upper walls have been hand decorated in several rooms and wall paper has been used in several rooms.

Each room has one or more hot water radiators(original) and has wide wood moldins along the baseboard and doorways that are oversized by todays standards. The doors are original with brass hinges and hardware and glass doorknobs. Double doors with multiple glass panes lead into the front room and dining room. In many situations the light switches are still the push button style and the covers are brass. Multipane doors to the cabinets in the dining and front room add to the originalness of the house. A large mantle across one end of the frontroom is about 30" wide and the fireplace is extra large.

The sunroom on the back(south) side of the house has multiple push out type windows and is screened(original wood frames) so that it makes a very pleasant summer sleeping place. Also upstairs are two other bedrooms a bathroom and a small room no doubt used as a dressing room originally.

Several things suggest that this home was built for people of means. No chimney in the kitchen hence either a gas or electric stove. A drain for the icebox plumbed in and a kitchen which was very utilitarian which suggests a hired cook. The room off of the kithen does not have a closet which supports the notion that the family had a hired cook. The dining room is large and beautiful and the garage in back had a beam projecting out in the manner to allow for easier unloading of ice, bulk groceries and other items. And the basement has a large storage room for food stores. The garage was a double one which is unique for this neighborhood, perhaps suggesting a early two car family. The laundry was was done in the basement and hung there to dry, No wash in the wind for this house. The 5000 feet of living space, the 57 windors, the cedar sheathing and subfloors, the fancy doors, the silver plated light fixtures, the neighborhood(then) etc. etc. suggest over and over that the house was was and is a reflection of prosperity and upper middle class tastes of the times(1918-1920).

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1920

Significant Dates
1920

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Wasco County Clerk and Assessor's records, Wasco County Courthouse

City of The Dalles Historic Resources Inventory, 1984. Inventory Data Sheets, No. 142 et. seq.

Interviews, Betty Van Dellen (Mrs. John) Skirving, daughter of John and Murta Van Dellen, October-November, 1990.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 0.14 acres The Dalles, Oregon-Washington 1:62500

UTM References

A

1	0	6	4	1	7	2	5	5	0	5	0	6	7	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 3, Township 1N, Range 13E, Willamette Meridian, in The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon. It is legally described as Lot 1, Block 5, Gibson Addition to the City of The Dalles and is otherwise identified as Tax Lot 5800 at said location.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated area corresponds to the legally recorded lot lines of the parcel historically developed and occupied by lumber company owner John Van Dellen from 1920 onward. It includes as a separately contributing feature a well-preserved Craftsman-style garage which is part of the original development.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Fred D. Krauss

organization _____ date August, 1990

street & number 400 E. Eighth Street telephone (503) 296-4172

city or town The Dalles state Oregon zip code 97058

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The two-story bungalow occupying the southwest corner of the intersection of East Eighth and Federal streets in the Laughlin Bluff neighborhood of The Dalles, Oregon was built in 1920 for John Van Dellen, the owner of the Van Dellen Lumber Company. No architect or builder has been identified to date, but the Van Dellen House is a local distillation of the Western Stick, or California Bungalow style. Comparative analysis of bungalows in the City of The Dalles Historic Resources Inventory shows this to be the outstanding interpretation of the high style. As such, it meets National Register Criterion C. The house is notably well preserved inside and out, and reflects the importance placed by the owner on solid construction and craftsmanship and his ready access to fir and straight-grained cedar, the choicest of local building materials.

The Van Dellen House is a rectilinear volume characterized by numerous porches and projections having broad, gently-pitched gable roofs with deep eaves carried on exposed rafter ends and outsized triangular, or gallows brackets. Vergeboards have decoratively finished ends in the Craftsman tradition, and the exterior is clad with lapped cedar weatherboards. Fine brickwork is exhibited in the exterior chimney on the east side elevation and in the matching railings and massive tapered uprights of the front porch. A variety of window types was used, including window banks, picture windows, both single and three-part, and double-hung windows with upper sash divided into many small lights. All are framed with architrave surrounds.

The interior is carried out in dark-stained Arts and Crafts finishwork noteworthy for beamed ceilings in living room and dining room, high paneled wainscoting, built-in fireplace cabinetry, and well-proportioned door and window surrounds with architrave molding.

The Western Stick style emerged in California in the work of Charles and Henry Greene, Bernard Maybeck and others in the 1890s and was popularized by The Craftsman magazine and building trade journals. It was a style rooted in the Arts and Crafts Movement that expressed its wood post and beam construction system in exterior stickwork. Its low-lying horizontality was accentuated by gently-pitched roofs with shadow-creating deep eaves and boldly projecting horizontal framing members. The qualities of horizontal

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structuralism and quality craftsmanship that characterized the California Bungalows of master architects are embodied in the Van Dellen House in The Dalles.

A small automobile garage situated at the southwest corner of the property is oriented at a right angle to the house, fronting on Federal Street. Because it is finished with the same siding and trim as the house and has a low-pitched gable roof on exposed rafter ends and gallows brackets, it is counted a separately contributing feature. The original double-leaf folding doors are in place.

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This large house built in 1920 for John Van Dellen and his wife, Murta, is locally significant under Criterion C as the largest, best preserved and most distinctive example of Craftsman Bungalow architecture in The Dalles, Oregon.

The builder of the house, owner of a lumber yard, had the will and the means to build this home with the best materials of construction available. The concrete was used in abundance as was brick, lumber and trim, doors and windows (57 of them). The subfloors and roof sheathing are of cedar. The light fixtures are of the finest quality and the workmanship is excellent.

The neighboring house to the west was built in 1921 by the same builder as the neighborhood was developed from East to West on this street. The sidewalk was installed by S. A. Fredericksen in October of 1916 in anticipation of the growth on the brow of Laughlin's Bluff.

The house was lived in by the Van Dellen (John and or Florence) for around 40 years. Subsequently, three other families have occupied the house. Two of those owners were local citizens of note. Bob Taylor the third owner was the high school principal until very recently and the current owner since 1975, Fred D. Krauss, is the superintendent of The Wasco Education Service District (County School Superintendent). The Van Dellen continue to have family living in the area who are of high social standing and achievement.

While most of the home is preserved in original condition, there have been some changes. The back wooden fence has been moved and replaced, and the fish pond has been filled in. The garage is now a hobby shop and the kitchen was modernized in the 1970's by the Taylors and they replaced the shingle roof with asphalt shingles. Some wiring improvements

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were done in the 1960's and have continued piecemeal ever since. Some knob and tube wiring remains. The coal furnace was converted to oil along the way and was replaced in the late 1970's with a gas furnace though most of the original hot water radiators and the piping remains in place.

The basement has had a party room added and the clothes washing facilities have been relocated. The coal room is now used for storage. Original plumbing fixtures grace the bathrooms and many original light fixtures remain in place including silver (plated) ones in the wood paneled dining room.

Wall paper now covers the blue stipled plaster in the lining room and wall to wall carpets cover many of the hardwood floors. But recently light fixtures and hardware in one of the rooms were restored to original after many years and coats of paint.

A fence has been added in the front of the house to help preserve the house and is now almost totally covered with ivy and the maple trees on the west side of the house have been removed and replaced by birch trees and the parking strips have been paved with concrete .

It is expected that the shingle roof will be restored in due course.

Based on comparative analysis of data in the City of The Dalles Historic Resources Inventory of 1984, the Van Dellen House clearly rises to the top as the most distinctive example of Craftsman Bungalow architecture locally in terms of its scale and quality of design and craftsmanship. Proportions of exterior elevations are fine enough to suggest to some that an architect, as opposed to a builder, was responsible for the design. No designer has been identified to date, however.

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My analysis is that the Van Dellen house is one of the best three examples of this style of architecture as shown by the city records. In addition, of the 23 structures identified as Bungalows, the Van Dellen house appeared to be outstanding among them in the following ways.

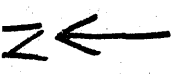
- 1) Two story and further it was the only one with the second story indented (smaller than the first level) and hence with roof lines at two levels. There were other homes with attic type second stories and even a 2½ story house, but this style was particularly unusual.
- 2) Irregular rectangular shape. This home has numerous indentations in its outside frame lines. No other home shows this elaborate configuration. This is not only unique, but expensive to construct. This is found at all stories of the house and its basement.
- 3) The structure was one of six homes listed in excellent condition and no exterior alterations noted. It is also the only one of the six best preserved examples that has brick as a decorative (and structural) feature and one of only two that have brick or masonry (rock) integrated into their exterior construction.

Further analysis shows that this home is located near the center of town in what was in the early days of The Dalles the fine residential district located on the bluff overlooking the town and the river. This area was above the flood zone of the town, hence was particularly desirable.

THE DAI S OREGON
IN 1 38A

THE DALLES, OREGON

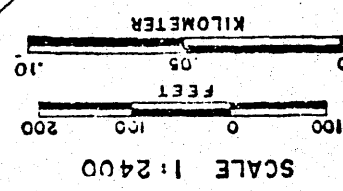
WASCO COUNTY



SEE 1 38B

CANCELLED

T.L.	800
	2500
	3000
	4000
	5600
	3700
	3900
	2102
	3301
	2300
	12200



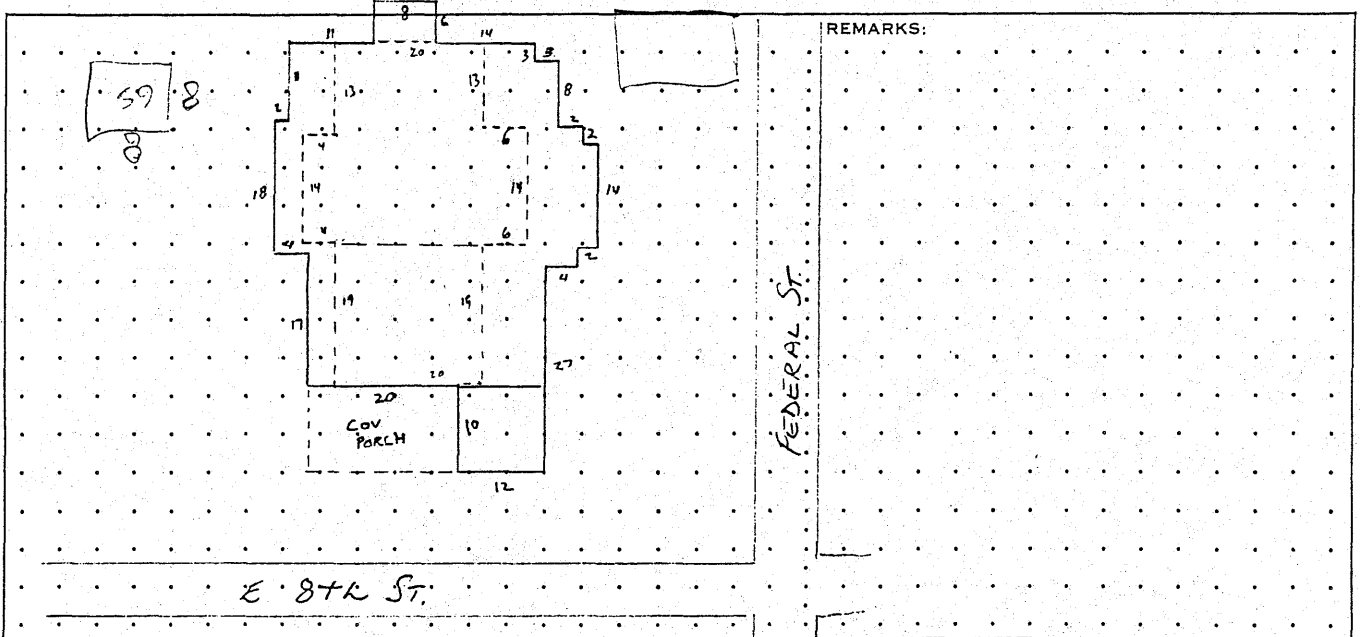
SEE MAP IN 13 3CB

SEE MAP IN 13 38B

E. TENTH (PINE) STREET

THE DALLES

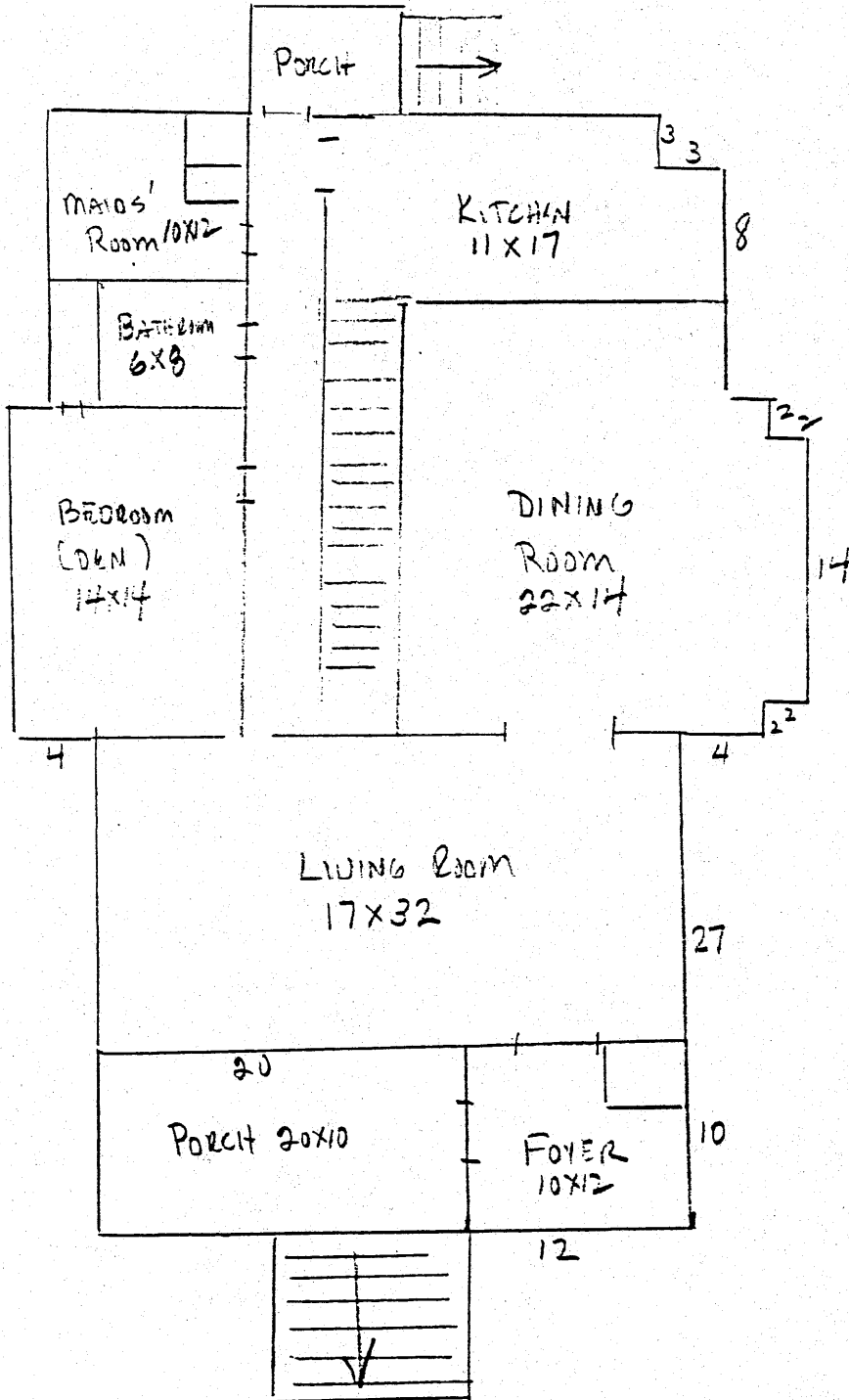
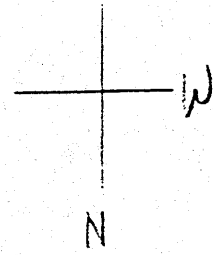
BUILDING DIAGRAM AND OUTBUILDINGS



NO.	TYPE USE	DESCRIPTION					DIMENSIONS	AREA S.F. BASE ADJ BASE	REPL. COST LUMP SUM TOTAL	QUAL. INDEX % MDF.	REPL. COST	DEP. % PHYS % USE % GOOD %	DEPRECIATED REPLACE- MENT COST
		FOUND	FLOOR	ROOF	WALLS	MISC.							
	GARAGE	CONC	CONC	GAB	PLSTIC	17x18	306						
	CLASS												
	ATT/DET BSMT			C/S		X	15.55	4758	106	5041			
	YR BUILT					X					50	2522	
1						X							
						X							
						X							
2						X							
						X							
						X							
3						X							
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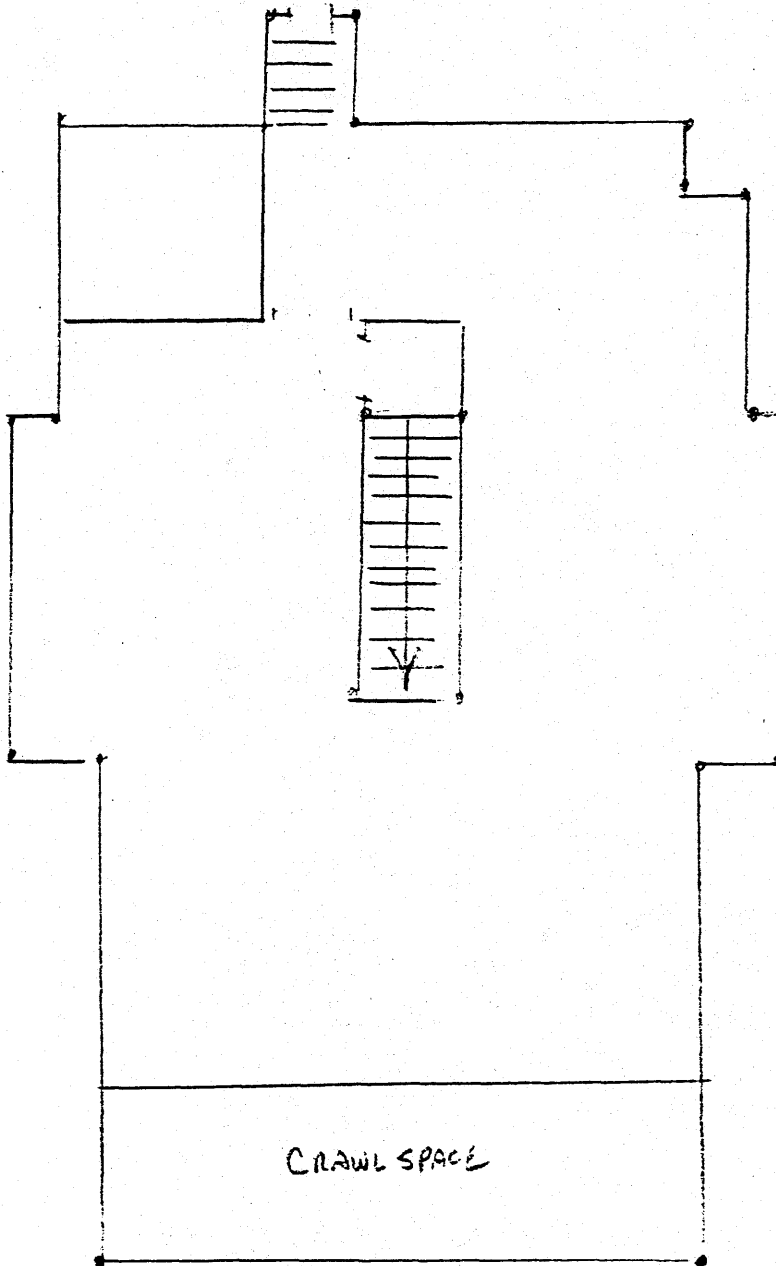
DOWN ST. #3
(MAIN FLOOR)

FRED D. KRAUSS
400 EAST 8 TH. STREET
THE DALLES OR. 97058
503 296 4172

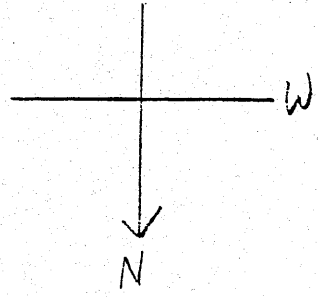


Basement

FRED D. KRAUSS
400 EAST 8 TH. STREET
THE DALLES OR. 97058
503 296 4172



FRED D. KRAUSS
400 EAST 8 TH. STREET
THE DALLES OR. 97058
503 296 4172



UPSTAIRS

20

SUN ROOM
20x13

13

BALCONY

4

DRESSING
Room
(NURSERY)
8x12

14

BATH ROOM
10x12

4

HALL

STAIRS

Bedroom
12x14

14

CLOSET

CLOSET

CLOSET

6

MASTER Bed Room
16x20

19