

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM

COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

MAY 16 1985

1. NAME

Historic JUDGE RALSTON HOUSE

and/or Common JUDGE RALSTON HOUSE

2. LOCATION

UTM References:

Zone 10 Easting 517820

Northing 5329910

Street & Number

1523 Madison Street

- not for publication

City, Town

Port Townsend

- 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:

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name

Jerry F. Kennedy

Street & Number

1523 Madison Street

City, Town

Port Townsend

- vicinity of

State

Washington 98368

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Port Townsend Leader, May 4, 1983.

1911 Insurance Maps, Jefferson County Historical Museum.

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title

Katheryn Krafft and Shirley Courtois

Organization

Date

November 1984

Street & Number

4021 E. Highland Drive

Telephone

(206) 325-9346

City or Town

Seattle

State

Washington 98112

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

The Judge Ralston House is a two-story, wood frame structure, which now rests on a concrete basement added in 1951. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles and is penetrated by two brick chimneys. A two-story rectangular window bay with a gable roof is located on the south elevation. An enclosed entry porch on the east facade has double paneled doors, paneled frieze, and heavy brackets supporting a pedimented gable. The exterior of the house is covered with drop siding; and windows are one-over-one light, tall and narrow, double-hung sash. The wide plain window surrounds have narrow shelf heads and decorative aprons. A two-story, hip-roofed rear addition and a side sunporch were added to the house about 1905. The handsome millwork of the interior is original and typical of the period. The two front parlors are separated by four-panel pocket doors, and each has its own entry door accessible from the enclosed front porch.

Verbal boundary description: Mountain View Addition,
Blcok 5, Lots 7-8.

Acreage: Less than an acre.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Specific dates	1890	Builder/Architect	Unknown
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a. History

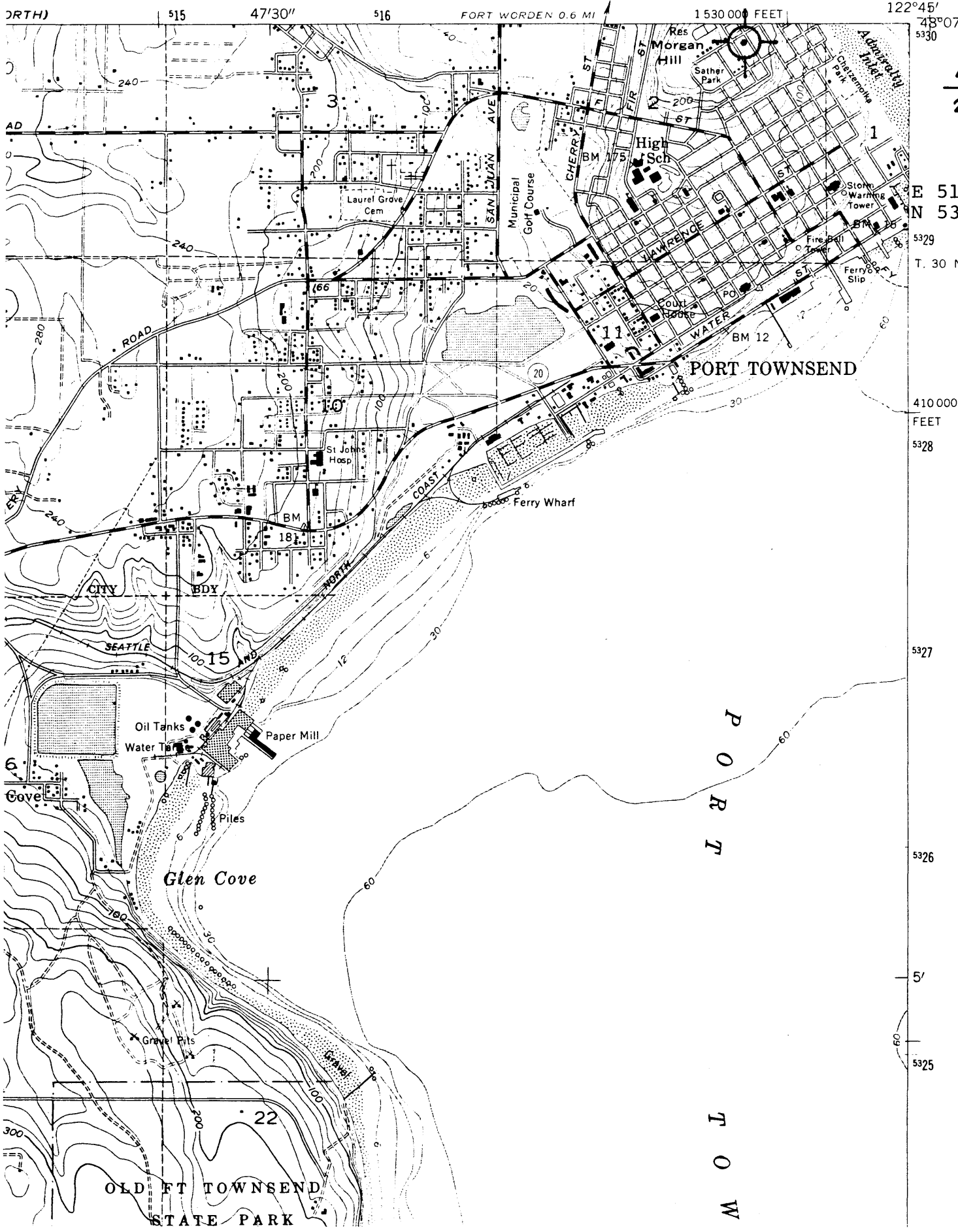
John M. Ralston (1869-1963) was a native of Nova Scotia, who arrived in Port Townsend in 1889. Employed at first by the city's fire department, he began to study law and was admitted to the bar in 1895. Three years later he was elected city attorney. For many years (1912-1940) he served as superior court judge for Jefferson and Clallam counties, and was later called from retirement to serve again (1944-45). In 1898 he married Lizzie A. Waite of Massachusetts and they purchased this "farmhouse" on Morgan Hill in order to raise goats for milk for their children. The Ralstons made some alterations to their home, but later (1919) sold it and moved to Port Angeles.

b. Evaluation of Significance

Even with the early twentieth century additions, the Judge Ralston House remains one of Port Townsend's most handsome Victorian residences outside the historic district. Its association with the highly respected and long term judge gives it a special significance in Jefferson County history.

PORT TOWNSEND SOUTH QUADRANGLE
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 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

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 (COUPEVILLE)



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