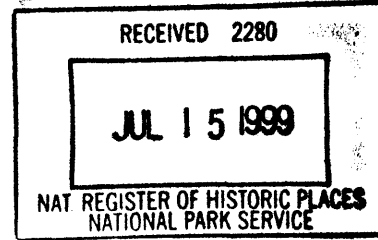


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 WITTEN, T.M. AND EMMA A., DRUG STORE/RESIDENCE

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 104 N MAIN ST n/a not for publication

city or town JEFFERSON n/a vicinity

state Oregon code OR county MARION code 047 zip code 97352

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Hamrick

Deputy SHPO

June 25, 1999

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

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 certifying official/Title

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

8/12/99

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence  
Name of Property

Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon  
City, County, and State

### 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-contributing	
<u>1</u>		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
<u>1</u>		Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

n/a

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: general store  
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH CARE: wellness center

### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY  
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial & Bungalow  
OTHER: Western False Front

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
walls Weatherboard  
roof ASPHALT  
other \_\_\_\_\_

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence, Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon

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### Narrative Description

The T.M. Witten and Emma A. Drug Store/Residence, built c.1890, faces east onto Main on a corner lot at the intersection of Union and Main in the downtown area of Jefferson. This Western Store Front/Italianate style building is located amid other late 19th century buildings in the area that include the Jacob Conser building to the north (listed in the National Register of Historic Places).<sup>1</sup> The store and residence, technically a single building, represent simple, practical vernacular architecture of the late 19th century. Both volumes are clad entirely with shiplap siding and are trimmed with plain corner boards.

The storefront is constructed of 2 x 4 full dimension rough sawn lumber, two feet on center, and sided with 1 x 6 shiplap siding. The false front incorporates an overhanging cornice that has carved decorative brackets that introduce Italianate stylistic elements. A dentil band is located above the windows, and pilasters (changed to fluted pilasters in 1997) placed between the windows. The storefront windows consist of two-over-two wood windows above wood paneled bulkheads. The recessed entrance has one-over-one side windows, and double doors surmounted by a transom. The entry doors were replaced with replicas and stained glass was added in 1996. There are new asphalt shingles on the roof, and the chimneys have been dismantled due to deterioration.

The Witten store had undergone some changes over the years and the renovation project that was completed in 1998 replaced in kind some of the missing materials, as well as introducing a few new elements to meet current codes and accommodate the building's use as a wellness center. The building was originally supported by brick pads along the perimeter, and had round tree stump sections under the interior support beams. These were replaced by concrete block and reinforced concrete piers in 1995.

Bracing was added in the attic above the store to meet building code requirements. The stairway to the upper level of the store, originally enclosed with a door at the bottom, had been modified. It was opened up and rebuilt in 1997 and balusters were added to meet present code requirements. The mechanical and electrical systems of the store were upgraded to meet current code requirements. Textured sheet rock was added throughout. Some trim was replaced where worn.

The residential section reads as a separate component as it is set back from the front storefront and sidewalk approximately 17'. This bungalow form utilizes the residential form, scale, and massing, with a front porch, side entry and paired double hung windows, typical of houses of the period. This portion of the building was built in phases. The original residence consisted of the current front room and dining room. The first addition, built by 1898,<sup>2</sup> was the kitchen, downstairs bedroom, pantry, and upper

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<sup>1</sup> The Jacob Conser house was built in 1854 and is one of only a few buildings left in Oregon that predate statehood. It was purchased by the town of Jefferson in 1937 and used as a city hall and library. In 1939 it was remodeled as part of a W.P.A. project.

<sup>2</sup> Sanborn Map, 1898.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 2

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence, Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon

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level rooms. The second addition included the back bathroom, storage area, and garage, which was completed by 1913.<sup>3</sup>

The entry door to the house was replaced with a similar door, with the opening enlarged from 30" to 36" to meet current building code requirements. The stained glass was placed in the transom in 1997. The porch is original except for new decking and a column that replaced a 4 x 4 post. The window sash have been replaced with insulated glass, custom built to each window, and retaining exterior frames and sills.

The dormer above the front porch originally had a shed roof. There was considerable rot and due to the degree of deterioration, the current owners replaced the shed-roof dormer with a gabled dormer in 1996.

Mechanical and electrical upgrades also occurred in the residential portion of the building. The house retains most of the original floor plan. A closet was removed from a bedroom adjacent to the kitchen to enlarge the kitchen. The pantry walls and upstairs closet were replaced, but all original wall openings and placement are original, although some have been enlarged to meet current code requirements. The kitchen cabinet design replicated original cabinets, but the layout is new.

The modifications that have occurred to not significantly impact the building's integrity. The Witten Drug Store/Residence retains most of its original fabric and design and contributes to the historic qualities of Jefferson.

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence  
Name of Property

Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon  
City, County, and State

### 8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" on one or more lines 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" on all that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or 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.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

SOCIAL HISTORY

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Period of Significance

c.1890-1950

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Significant Dates

c.1890

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

#### Cultural Affiliation

n/a

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Architect/Builder

unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section No. 8 Page 1

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence, Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon

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## **Narrative Statement of Significance**

The T.M. and Emma A. Drug Store/Residence on Main Street in Jefferson was the city's first drug store and is significant historically for its association with the commerce and social history of Jefferson. The Witten Drug Store helps to describe the commercial growth of the town of Jefferson. It is architecturally significant as a rare remaining example of a combination store and residence built during the historic period in Jefferson. The building clearly describes the separate uses through the dual form, massing, design and detailing, clearly describing a period when proprietors of small businesses lived adjacent or above their stores.

## **HISTORY OF JEFFERSON:**

Jefferson was originally named Conser's Ferry, for Jacob Conser. He was a pioneer of 1848 and a prominent settler of the Santiam Valley. He took up a claim for land at what is now Jefferson, built a ferry in 1851, started a saw mill in 1853, and erected a flour and grist mill a few years later. The Jefferson Institute (1857-1899), named for Thomas Jefferson, was established in the vicinity of the ferry, and the name of the institute was eventually adopted by the community. The town was settled in 1853, the post office was changed to Jefferson in 1861, and was incorporated in 1870. The town was platted by Jacob and Nancy Conser and James Bates and his wife (name unknown), also early pioneers to the area. Previous to the building of the railroad, steamboats came up the Santiam River as far as Jefferson. The railroad, which reached Jefferson in 1870, made the stage coaches and most of the river navigation obsolete. In 1893, the town had a population of 400. At that time there were several flour and saw mills, four churches, a school, newspaper publisher, two hotels, a library, lodges of various organizations, and a large public hall located in Jefferson. The area around Jefferson was used primarily for the cultivation of hops and fruit. The community was prosperous, and in 1907 boasted having a blacksmith shop, ferry service across the Santiam River, drug store, sawmill, stoking factory, grocery store, general merchandise store, flour mill, furniture and pool hall, butcher shop, barber shop and candy store, bank, hotels and train depot, stagecoach stop, schools, newspaper and doctor's office. In addition, steamboats came up the river adding to a robust community living. The 1950 census showed that Jefferson had a population of 636.

## **HISTORY OF WITTEN DRUG STORE/RESIDENCE:**

The nominated property was sold by Anna Tanzler to Thomas M. Witten for the sum of \$500 in April, 1890. It is believed that the building was constructed by the Wittens at that time as it does appear on an 1890 Sanborn map. T.M. Witten is listed in the local directory as a druggist in 1893, along with other businesses located in the area that included jewelry, hardware, meat market, publishing company, barber, millinery, and general merchandise stores. Little is known about the Wittens. They retained ownership of the property until 1901 when Thomas and Emma Witten sold the property to Charles H. Cusick. Cusick, according to his son, Eugene H. Cusick, was a former pharmacist for the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 2

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence, Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon

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Oregon State Hospital. As well as continuing to operate the drug store, Charles Cusick was an agent for Wells Fargo Express.

In 1907, Charles and Harriet Ball Cusick sold the property to George C. Mason. Mr. Mason operated the drug store until 1957. His daughter, Virginia Mason, inherited the property. She was a teacher and school librarian. Ms. Mason used this structure as her home. She sold the property to Neil and Wilma Stephenson in 1965, and they used the storefront as a sporting goods store and lived in the house. They sold the property to Gerald and Evelyn Lechron in 1976. The Lechrons lived in the house and used the storefront as a television and appliance repair store as well as to sell second hand furniture and books. Lewis Judy and Toni Gilbert bought the property in 1983, who sold it on contract to two individuals over the next 12 years who were unable to make the payments. In January of 1998, renovation of the property was completed and Toni Gilbert, RN, MA, a holistic nurse, started a wellness center called "Centre of Main St." The building contains offices and group gathering rooms and is no longer being used as a residence.

An example of another store/residence building in Oregon is the John W. Merritt House and Store built in 1888 at 117 East Pine Street in Central Point Oregon (listed in 1992). There is one other structure in Jefferson with a combination store and residence from the turn of the century, however, it has been significantly altered and no longer portrays the historic qualities that are seen in the Witten building.

The Witten Drug Store/Residence represents a period of growth and development in Jefferson. Located at the crossroads of the main streets in Jefferson, the pharmacy was an important aspect of the community and supported a primary need associated with the health and well being of residents. This building is also a rare remaining example of a structure that illustrates the way in which small business owners lived above, next to, or near their commercial enterprises. The growth of the building under ownership of business people is illustrative of a commonplace need to provide living quarters adjacent to a place of business. This store is the only example of the distinctive Western False Front vernacular Italianate type remaining in Jefferson, where, as in most western towns, the wood building tradition was once typical in the commercial center. The Witten Drug Store/Residence retains its original form, materials, and design features, and contributes to the historic qualities of Jefferson.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section No. 9 Page 1

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence, Jefferson, MarionCounty, Oregon

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## **Bibliography**

Benninghoff, Joe. "The Early History of Jefferson", Marion County History, Vol. 4, 1958. Marion County Historical Society, Salem.

R.L. Polk Directories, 1893

Sanborn Maps, 1890, 1898, 1913

Title Records, Marion County Courthouse



Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence  
Name of Property

Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon  
City, County, and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 0.164 acres

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 1/0 4/9/9/1/4/0 4/9/5/1/3/6/0  
Zone Easting Northing

B / / / / / / / / / /  
Zone Easting Northing

C / / / / / / / / / /

D / / / / / / / / / /

#### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning on the west line of Main Street in the town of Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon, at a point 3.985 chains south of the point of intersection of the line between the Donation Land Claims of Jacob Conser and wife and James M. Bates and wife, with the western line of said street, and running thence north along the west line of said Main Street, a distance of 130 feet; thence south parallel with said street a distance of 54.95 feet; thence east 130 feet to the place of beginning.

\_\_ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

#### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those that were historically and continue to be associated with the building.

\_\_ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title TONI GILBERT

organization OWNER

date March 1999

street & number 104 N Main St

telephone 541-327-7749

city or town Jefferson

state OR zip code 97352

#### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Maps:** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A Sketch map for historic districts and/or properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
- **Photographs:** Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.
- **Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

#### Property Owner

name TONI GILBERT AND LEWIS JUDY

street & number 3219 JEFFERSON SCIO DRIVE

telephone 541-327-2543

city or town JEFFERSON

state OR zip code 97352

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page \_\_\_\_

Witten, T.M. and Emma A., Drug Store/Residence, Jefferson, MarionCounty, Oregon

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**Common Label Information:**

1. Witten, T.M. and Emma, Drug Store/Residence
2. Jefferson, Marion County, Oregon
3. Photographer: Toni Gilbert
4. Date: September 1998
5. Negative on file at site

**Photo No. 1:**

6. Northeast elevation of building. Camera facing southwest.

**Photo No. 2:**

6. Southeast elevation of building. Camera facing northwest.

**Photo No. 3:**

6. East elevation of building. Camera facing west.

**Photo No. 4:**

6. South elevation of building. Camera facing north.

**Photo No. 5:**

6. Northwest elevation of building. Camera facing southeast.

**Photo No. 6:**

6. South elevation of building. Camera facing north.

**Photo No. 7:**

6. Interior elevation of building. Camera facing east.

**Photo No. 8:**

6. Interior stairway.

**Photo No. 9:**

6. Interior of living room.

**Photo No. 10:**

6. Interior of kitchen.

**Photo No. 11:**

6. Interior of replaced stairway.

**Photo No. 12:**

6. Interior of bathroom.

**Photo No. 13:**

6. Northeast elevation of building. Historic view, 1919.

**Photo No. 14:**

6. Interior view of building. Historic view, 1919.

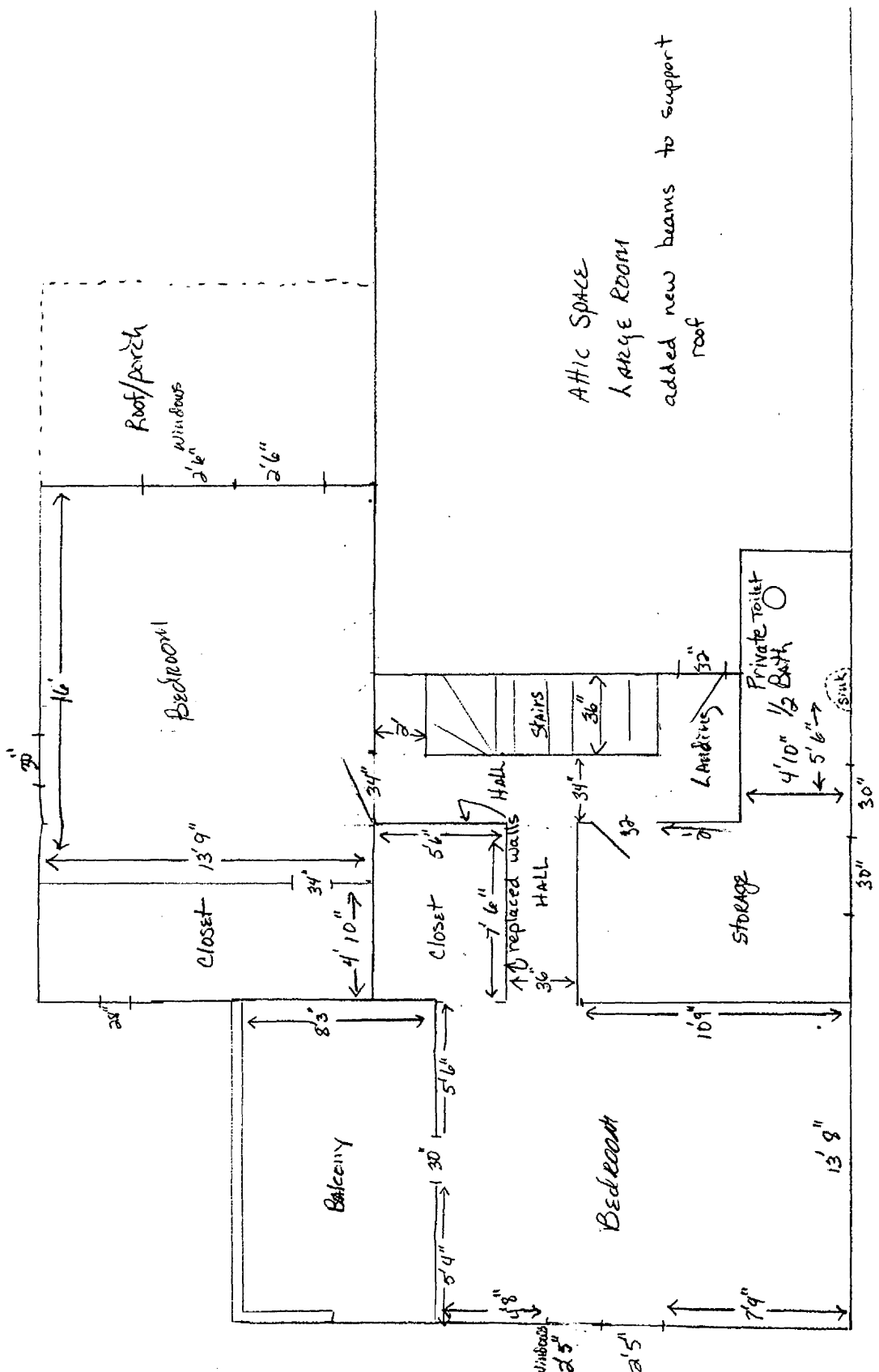
**Photo No. 15:**

6. Northeast elevation of building, 1964.

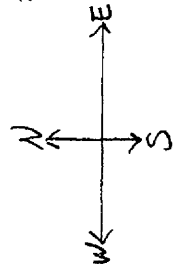
**Photo No. 16:**

6. South elevation of building, 1964.

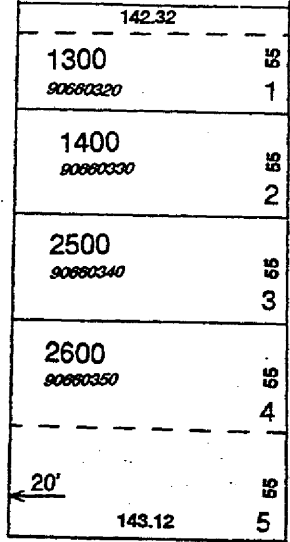
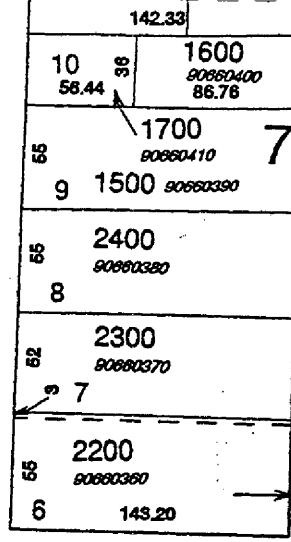
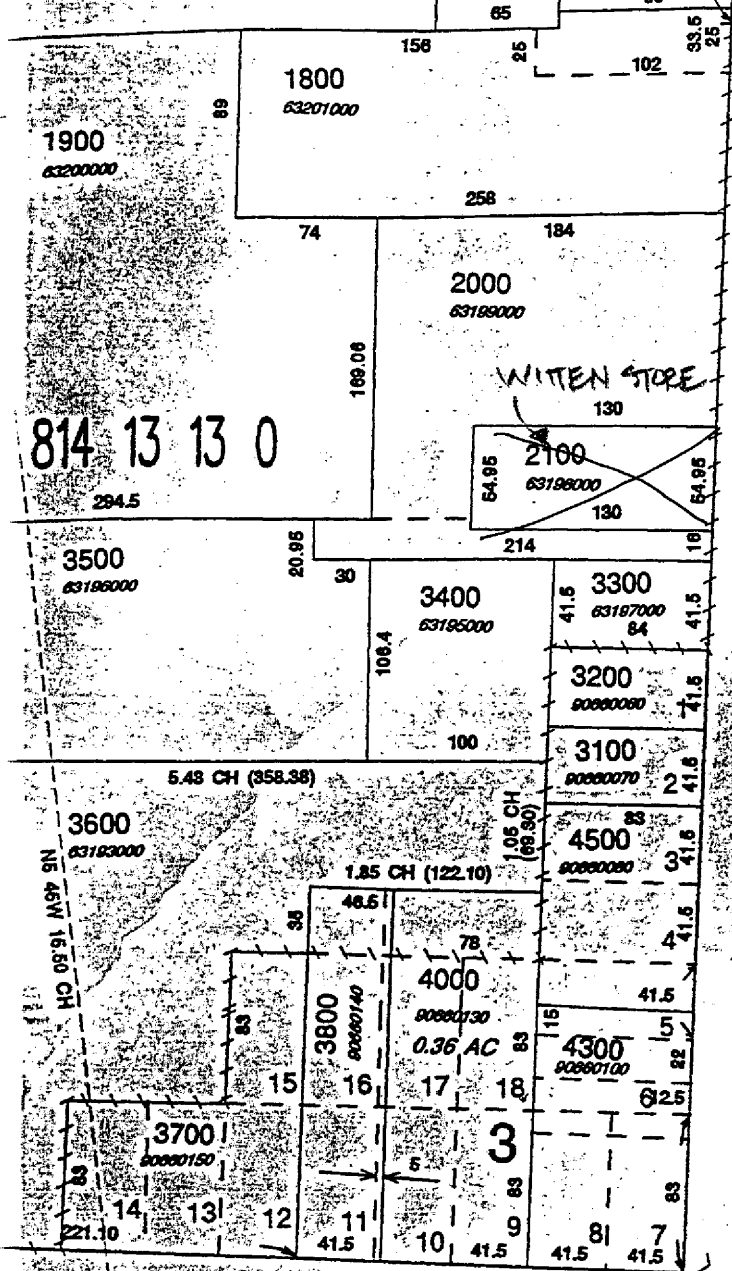




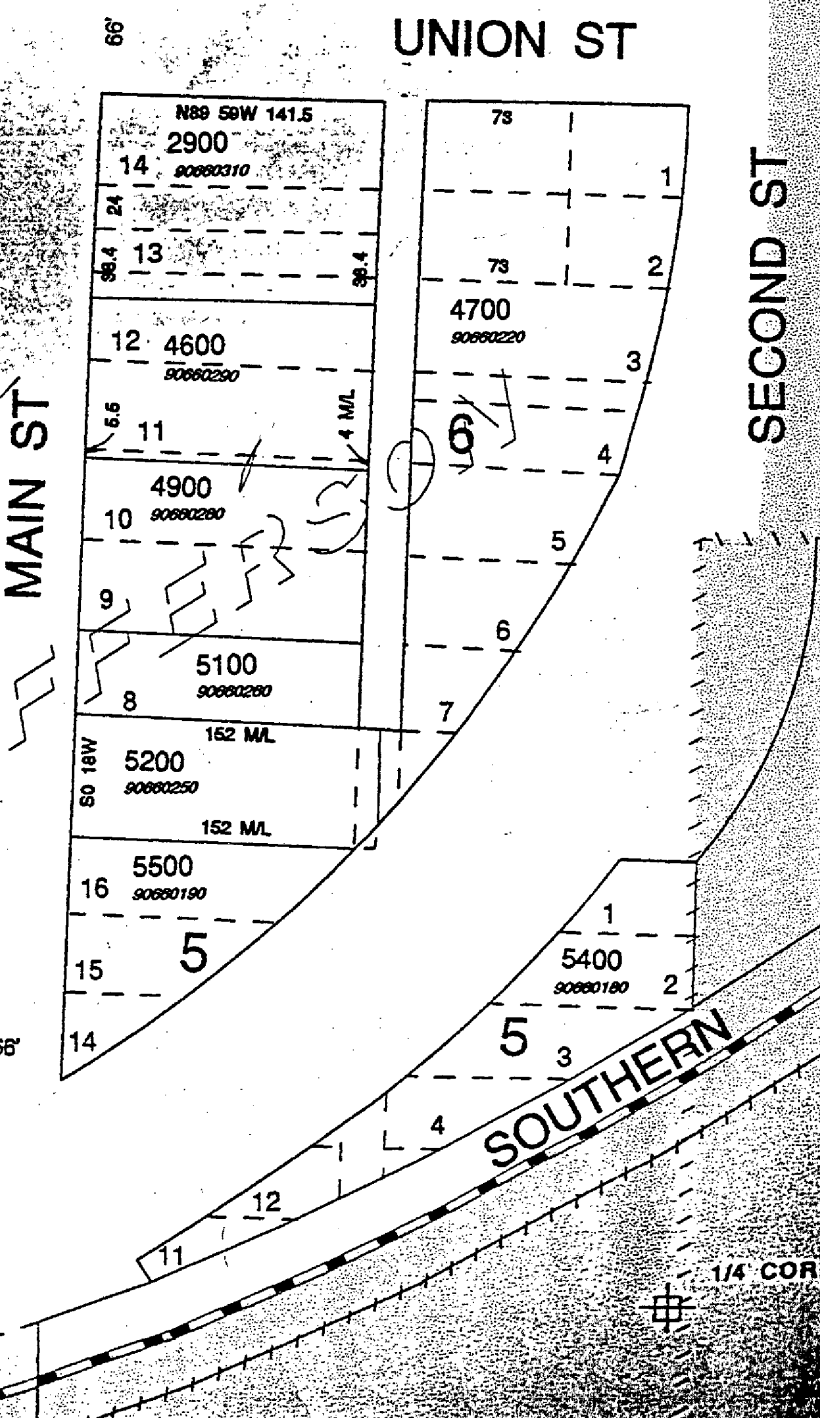
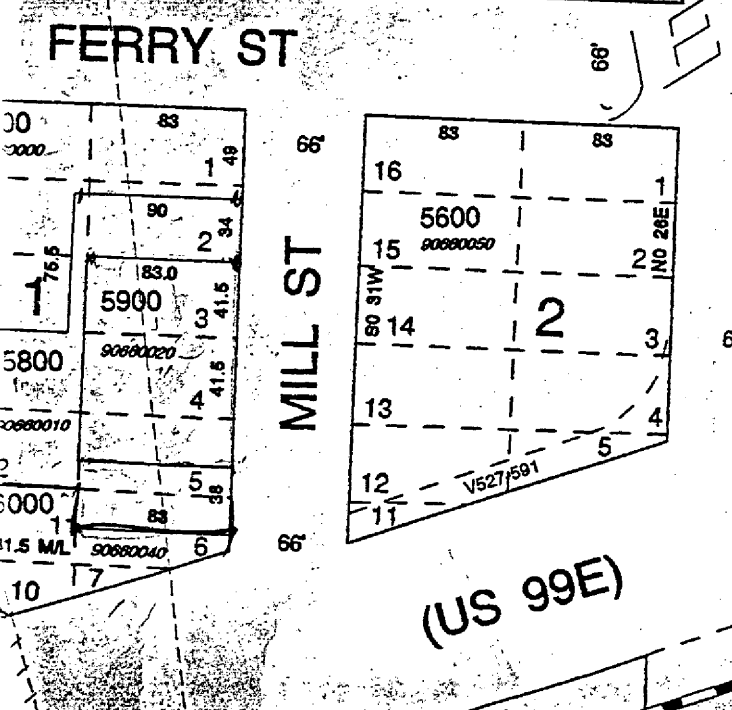
ATTIC SPACE  
 LARGE ROOM  
 added new beams to support  
 roof



791 53 4+



(US 99E)

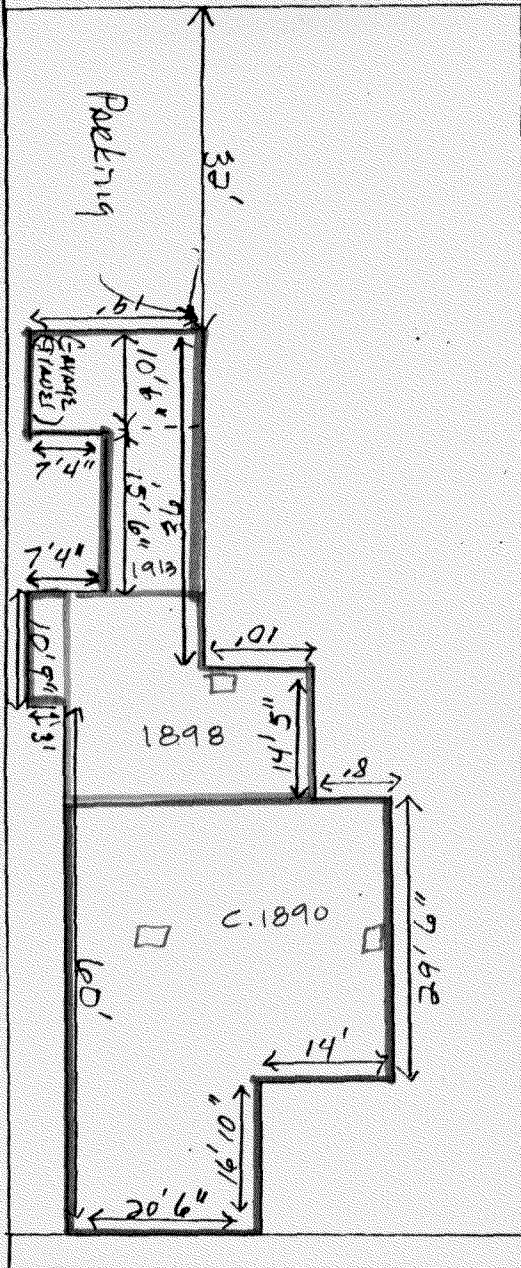


COLUMBIA

Map #1

Property at 104 Main St

Union Street (Grass)



Toni Gilbert  
3219 Jefferson-Scio Dr.  
Jefferson, OR 97352

Scale 1/8" = 2'

Main Street (Paved)

- Original Stonefront & Residence
- 1<sup>st</sup> Addition - Kitchen, pantry, 2 bedrooms & <sup>Back, Lower & Upper Porch</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition - Bathroom, storage & garage
- original location of chimneys (destroyed)