

SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

1. NAME

Historic Earl Oatman House

and/or Common Crowell House

2. LOCATION

UTM References:
Zone 10 Easting 519510
Northing 5295840

Street & Number

Muncie Street

- not for publication

City, Town

Quilcene

- 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

James D. Crowell

Street & Number

P.O. Box 457

City, Town

Quilcene

- vicinity of

State

Washington 98376

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

Preston, Joan. Personal Communication. February 1983.

Waterman, Ruth and Lois Mackey. Personal Communication. February 1983.

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title

David B. Stalheim

Organization

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Street & Number

111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11

City or Town

Olympia

Date

February 1983

Telephone

(206) 753-7442

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

The Earl Oatman House has bungalow and classical revival characteristics, although the bungalow style predominates in the one-story house. The house went through some minor changes but all changes are associated with Earl Oatman and his wife, Daisy. The house has central attic dormers on three sides of the hipped roof. Columns support the front porch roof. The Oatman house is clad entirely in narrow, beveled siding and the roof has wood shingles. The Oatmans added a utility room to the back of the house in the 1930's; a solarium to the kitchen in the 1940's; and at some point, the garage attached to the utility room. The house is located in the original townsite of Quilcene, although today there is little evidence of the original town.

Verbal boundary description: Lots 6 to 8, Block 1,
Quilcene

Acreage: less than one

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Specific dates	1913	Builder/Architect	unknown
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a. History

In 1908, Earl Oatman began working for Louis Seitzinger in his store at Lower Quilcene. The store was called the Quilcene Trading Company and was established in 1895 by Seitzinger. Between 1910 and 1912, Oatman bought Seitzinger's store. The store operated at Lower Quilcene until 1920 and was one of several that outfitted the miners of Tubal Cain on Iron Mountain. In 1913, Oatman built his house down the street from the store. The Quilcene Trading Company moved uptown along the Olympic Highway in 1920. In 1926, Earl Oatman became president of the First American National Bank of Port Townsend, a position he held until his death in 1957. Oatman typically travelled the twenty-five miles to work, but was also willing to do business at his home.

b. Evaluation of Significance

The Earl Oatman House is significant because of its association with the life and business activities of Earl Oatman. Earl Oatman appears to have been in the right situation at the right time. The Quilcene Trading Company store, when it was located at Lower Quilcene, was an important outfitter for the development of Tubal Cain mine; and when the store was re-located uptown, it took natural advantage of the new road--the Olympic Highway. Oatman rose to prominence in Jefferson County's history as president of the First American National Bank of Port Townsend for thirty-one years. The Earl Oatman House is also an important contributor to the architecture of unincorporated eastern Jefferson County.