

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 7 1976

DATE ENTERED

MAY 3 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC



Tulalip Indian Agency Office

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3901 Mission Beach Road, Tulalip Reservation

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Marysville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

X VICINITY OF

#2 - Honorable Lloyd Meeds

STATE

Washington

CODE

53

COUNTY

Snohomish

CODE

061

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Tulalip Tribes

Indian land held by U.S.A. in trust for
the Tulalip Tribes of Washington

STREET & NUMBER

6700 Totem Beach Road

CITY, TOWN

Marysville

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Washington 98270

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Western Washington Indian Agency
U. S. Department of the Interior

STREET & NUMBER

Federal Building
3006 Colby Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Everett

STATE

Washington 98201

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tulalip Indian Agency Office was built in 1912 from standard plans (Plan No. 7) of the U. S. Indian Service at a cost of \$3,865. A small, one-story building formally subdivided into four rooms and a hall, the Office is one of the few structures of the Agency still standing on Tulalip Reservation. The history of the Tulalip Indian Agency spans some one hundred years, from 1860 to 1951. The building symbolizes official regulation of Agency and Reservation affairs during the latter half of that historic period. It was used as the Tribal Office after 1951, and upon completion of a new Tribal Center in recent years it became a concessionaire's store. Recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan for Tulalip Reservation call of its restoration and future use as a museum and cultural interpretive center. It is the formal facade with its projecting "pavilions" and pedimental gable ends pierced with circular openings which suggests the building's somewhat distant relationship to the Colonial Revival Style.

The Tulalip Indian Agency Office is located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22, T.30N., R.4E., of the Willamette Meridian. It occupies unallotted tribal land within Tulalip Reservation, an area of some 22,000 acres in the Snohomish River drainage basin. The site is on the east bank of Tulalip Creek within the north-westerly cusp of land containing Tulalip Bay. The building is oriented to the south and overlooks the bay, Port Susan and the southerly San Juan Islands. It is on the north side of Mission Beach Road, which roughly approximates the contour of the waterfront. The immediate neighborhood is checkered with open spaces and native vegetation, and visible developments include several dwellings to the north and Tulalip Elementary School to the northeast. To the west, a stand of evergreens on the far bank of Tulalip Creek reservoir screens a subdivision from view.

The Office is rectangular in plan, measuring 32 by 45 feet, with the principal frontage on Mission Beach Road. It is a single-story frame structure on concrete foundation and basement. The hipped roof with overhanging eaves is covered with cedar shingles. Metal gutters and downspouts make up the rain drain collection system. A sense of style and importance is given the otherwise elementary design by two pavilions slightly projecting from either corner of the facade. Each is capped by a frontal gable with eaves extending across the face. Centered within these pedimental gable ends are louvered bull's-eye ventilating windows with plain surrounds. The south slope of the main roof is carried forward to shelter a central 6 by 20 foot porch which projects ahead of the pavilions. The porch has a wooden deck and four baluster-turned posts. A flight of concrete steps between low retaining walls leads up the slope from the road to the porch.

Exterior walls are covered with clapboards and painted white. Trim consists of plain corner and frieze boards and wide exterior baseboards abutting the concrete basement. Windows are the double-hung sash type, with lug sills and simple molded lintels. There are four regularly-spaced windows lighting the side elevations. Fenestration of the facade is also formal, including a single bay in either end pavilion and, in the recessed central section, one bay on either side of a multi-paneled stile and rail door with transom light. The upper panels of the door are glazed. A single brick chimney with corbelled necking and flared top is located at the east end of the roof ridge.

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The four office rooms, nearly equal in size, are arranged around the core of a 14 by 16 foot "hall", or receiving room entered directly from the porch. Original partitioning and trim appear to be essentially intact. The simple finish work consists of plaster ceilings and walls, baseboards with molding, and capped door and window casings. The matched fir floors were eventually covered with linoleum. Access to the basement is given by a concrete stairwell on the east end of the rear face. The basement contained the original steam heating plant, a storeroom and the basement of a vault which was built into the northeast corner office. Still protected by iron bars, windows of the east rear office are a reminder of the time when the building was the Agency's payroll and banking facility.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			Indian Affairs

SPECIFIC DATES 1912 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tulalip Indian Agency Office is significant to the Puget Sound region as the building from which affairs and schools of Tulalip Agency were directed from 1912 to 1951. After 1920 the Agency's jurisdiction was expanded to include reservations of the Olympic Peninsula. The Office was constructed from United States Indian Service standard plans during the distinguished term of Agency Superintendent Charles M. Buchanan. The reservations of Tulalip Agency were authorized by the Treaty of Point Elliott negotiated by Territorial Governor Isaac Ingalls Stevens in 1855 and ratified by Congress in 1859. The first agent arrived on the scene in 1860, but because buildings from a prior settlement were available for use, it was not until 1912 that the Tulalip Agency gained its first specially constructed headquarters. The Office is one of few Agency buildings left standing on the Reservation. The others are two residences and a later dining hall.

Prior to 1920, the Tulalip Indian Agency controlled four reservations on the tide-waters of upper Puget Sound: Port Madison, Tulalip, Swinomish, and Lummi. As provided for by treaty, the peaceable local tribes selected their lands with convenience for fishing as a major consideration. Each is near the mouth of a large river emptying into the Sound. The largest of the four, Tulalip Reservation is adjacent to Marysville, and it has an advantageous location near the Snohomish River entrance opposite the City of Everett on the north bank of Ebey Slough.

Including allied and subordinate tribes and bands, there were more than twenty-two tribes assigned to the original Tulalip Agency reservations. The tribes inter-married to such an extent that, in time, few Indians had unmingled blood of any one of the tribes. In ethnological terms, there never was any Tulalip tribe of Indians. Tulalip is an approximation of the Indian work "duh-hlay-lup", which refers to the shape of the small bay, the Tulalip, nearly enclosed by points of land. Known as Tulalip Bay, this was the picturesque setting of both Catholic Mission and Agency Plant within the 22,490-acre Tulalip Reservation.

Isaac Ingalls Stevens, first Governor of Washington Territory, made the historic Treaty of January 22, 1855 at Mukilteo, or Point Elliott, with the Duwamish, Suquamish, Snohomish, Skagit and numerous other tribes and bands of the region. After the treaty was signed and ratified in 1859, the federal government condemned the donation land claims and improvements of a small group of white settlers who had gathered on the northwesterly side of Tulalip Bay near the outfall of Tulalip Creek as early as 1853. These settlers had constructed one of the earliest sawmills on Puget Sound. They were compensated for their holdings and removed to new locations. The structures of the settlement were few and primitive, the principal value lying in the sawmill with its upright "muley" saw driven by a 26 foot overshot waterwheel. Upon arrival of the first permanently assigned Indian Agent in

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Buchanan, Charles M. Annual Report of the Superintendent, Tulalip Reservation, Washington. (1919) Annual report to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- Buchanan, Charles M. "Tulalip Agency and School", 1913. Typescript, Northwest Collection, University of Washington Library.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 0	5 5,3 ³²⁰ 6,2,0	5,3 2,3 ⁶²⁰ 3,2,5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elisabeth Walton Potter, Historic Preservation Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

DATE

October 1975

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 1128

TELEPHONE

(206) 753-4116

CITY OR TOWN

Olympia

STATE

Washington 98504

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Arthur M. Skolnik

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE December 19, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

W. M. ...

DATE

5/3/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles ...

DATE

5-3-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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August of 1861, the mill was repaired and lumber finished for construction of a few buildings. The home of the settlement's millwright became the Agency office, and the Agent turned his attention to the issue of treaty goods and supplies to some 2,000 Indians then encamped at Tulalip.

In 1862, the Agent authorized clearing of a site on the opposite, or southeasterly side of Tulalip Bay, a mile-and-a-half from the Agency's steamer landing, for construction of a school for the Catholic Mission of Saint Anne. In 1863, following completion of a "Priest's house" and certain other basic facilities, the Reverend Father Eugene Casimir Chirouse, O.M.I., shifted the mission school which he had founded as early as 1857 to the new location on Tulalip Bay from a nearby site at Priest Point. The boys' boarding school which Father Chirouse conducted at the new location was now maintained under government auspices. Within five years it was augmented by a girls' department operated by the Sisters of Charity of the House of Providence of Montreal. In 1869 the federal government contracted with the Tulalip Mission School for boarding and instruction of a certain number of Indian pupils for a fixed price per capita per month. Thus, Tulalip Mission School is believed to have been the first contract Indian school established in the country. It was operated as such until about 1896, when decreases in government school contracts were authorized by Congress and contract schools began to be phased out over a five year period. In the winter of 1900-1901 it was determined that the Agency would assume possession of the educational plant at Tulalip and conduct its own school.

Prior to the turn of the century, the U. S. Indian Service was a somewhat decentralized agency having regional superintendents with discretionary powers and authority to appoint local Indian Agents and "sub-agents". Upon the agency's reorganization and centralization of authority in Washington, D. C., the term superintendent came to be used for an official in charge of an Indian Agency or school. The first official to be designated "Superintendent" at Tulalip was Dr. Charles Milton Buchanan, who assumed the position on July 1, 1901. One of Buchanan's first duties in this capacity was to take possession of the Mission School from the Sisters of Charity. As Buchanan later reported, during the summer of 1901 improvements and additions were made to the old Mission plant, and "complete new equipment for the school was shipped in." The new Agency school, now wholly government operated, "opened its doors" in the Mission buildings in December, 1901. The school's service at this site was destined to be short lived, however, A fire which started in the early morning of March 29, 1902 destroyed six buildings, a major portion of the old Mission plant. The Indian boarders were sent home, and the school was closed.

Because the site of the Mission of Saint Anne never had been completely satisfactory from the standpoints of drainage and sanitation, it was abandoned after the fire.

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A new school site was established near other Agency buildings adjacent to the steamer landing on the westerly side of Tulalip Bay. The Agency's newly-constructed boarding school was opened for use in January, 1905, and, with some additions, it was operated until 1932. After its closure, children of Tulalip Reservation were taken into Marysville schools for a time. Today, children of the Reservation attend Tulalip Elementary School near the Agency Office.

Affairs of the four reservations and various schools of Tulalip Agency were directed from the millwright's house on Tulalip Creek for a remarkably long time. Built in 1859, and by some accounts dated as early as 1853, the old house served administrative purposes until 1912, when Superintendent Buchanan contracted for construction of a new four-room office building based on standard plan No. 7 of the U. S. Indian Service. The Superintendent's living quarters were located elsewhere. The old house, one of the most ancient of Snohomish County structures, and no doubt in poor condition, was razed in the winter of 1913-1914. The sawmill continued to be used by the Agency for many years, the overshot waterwheel having been replaced by a turbine wheel in 1896. In 1907 the relic was torn down and, the following year, a small circular-sawmill was erected in its place. It is assumed that the Agency's first and only specially constructed office was erected in the near vicinity of the millwright's house on the east bank of the Tulalip Creek. The Agency Office was used by superintendents of Tulalip Agency for nearly forty years. In 1920 Tulalip and Cushman Agencies were consolidated and administered from Tulalip. In 1951 headquarters of the expanded Western Washington Indian Agency was removed to Everett. The former Agency Office was used as the Tribal Office after 1951 and, upon completion of the new Tribal Center in recent years, it became a concessionaire's smoke shop.

Dr. Charles M. Buchanan's association with Tulalip Agency was exceptionally long, and his accomplishments motivated by a genuine concern for Indian welfare. He entered on duty at Tulalip as Agency physician in November, 1894, succeeding his uncle, Dr. Edwin Buchanan. He served as physician through June 30, 1901, and the following day assumed the position of Superintendent of Tulalip Agency. In 1908 Buchanan left for seven months to take up duties as Assistant Superintendent at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. He returned to Tulalip in 1909 and served as Agency Superintendent until his death early in 1920. In addition to expanding the Mission School, which was subsequently destroyed by fire, and building the Agency's new Training School (opened in 1905), Buchanan was responsible for constructing a permanent Agency Office and for building day schools at Port Madison and Lummi, and for adding materially to both plant and staff of the Swinomish day school. A native of Alexandria, Virginia, Buchanan was well qualified for his post in terms of education. Prior to studying medicine he taught chemistry in the Washington City High School and the United States Patent Office chemical laboratory. He was graduated in medicine from the National University (now George Washington University) in 1890. Before succeeding his uncle as

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physician at Tulalip Agency, Buchanan had been elected to chairs of chemistry, toxicology and metalurgy in the medical and dental departments of the National Universtiy. Buchanan was keenly interested in the lives of the Indians, and they, in turn, held him in high esteem and installed a memorial to him at Tulalip upon his death. He also had a natural bent for writing, and for a time published an Agency magazine. He wrote numerous short stories and articles on Indian traditions for national magazines.

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Comprehensive Plan: Tulalip Reservation. Prepared for the Tulalip Tribes of Washington by the Latourell Associates. Seattle, Washington (1972).

Physical plant survey form pertaining to Agency Office, 1915. Box 510, Records of Tulalip Indian Agency. Records Group 75. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Regional Federal Archives and Records Center, Seattle, Washington.

Whitfield, William, ed. History of Snohomish County, Washington. Vol. I (Chicago-Seattle: Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, 1926), p. 813 ff.