

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any 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 FERGUSON, FLORENCE, HOUSE

Other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 504 North Mill Street not for publication

city or town Colfax vicinity

State Washington code WA county Whitman code 075 zip code 99111

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide ☒ locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ally
Signature of certifying official/Title

3-31-11
Date

Washington 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 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

4/19/2011

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 incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
1		buildings
		sites
2		structures
		objects
3		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. Functions 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 & Early 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

Tudor Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: basalt

walls WOOD: shingle and clapboard

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Built in 1914 and located just one block east of the central business district of Colfax, Washington the Florence Ferguson House is intact example of the Arts & Crafts style, blending Tudor, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival design elements. The home retains an unusually high level of architectural integrity with the retention of original trim, fixtures, finishes, and floor plan.

CURRENT APPEARANCE & CONDITION

Site

The Ferguson House sits on a large lot, 87 feet wide and 100 feet deep. The house fronts west along the east side of North Mill Street, one block northeast of downtown Colfax and the Whitman County Courthouse. The house and garage are built in the center of a west-facing slope which backs up to a near-vertical rocky basalt bluff at the east rear border of the property. The house and garage are framed by mature deciduous trees, a terraced garden, and a tall black basalt rock retaining wall, which is built at the base of the bluff behind the house. The Ferguson House is located at the north end of Mill Street between North and Last Streets and is surrounded on three sides to the north, south, and west by single-family homes built roughly between 1900 and 1945.

Exterior of House

The Ferguson House follows an irregular rectangular footprint which measures 44 feet wide and 32 feet deep. Interrupting the rectangular footprint of the home, a small single-story back porch is attached to the rear of the house at the first floor and measures six feet wide and six feet deep. A single-story covered front porch is attached to the north/side elevation of the house at the first floor and measures 14 feet wide and 16 feet deep. The Ferguson House was built as a two and one-half-story dwelling with a steeply pitched side gable roof. The roof is covered with composition shingles and is articulated with two steeply pitched prominent front-facing gabled dormers at the west face. The design for the house is asymmetrical with asymmetrical fenestration patterns. The house is clad with a combination of black basalt rock veneer, narrow-width wood clapboard siding, and coursed wood shingle siding. The foundation is made of poured concrete. Nearly all of the windows are original and reveal a combination of double-hung wood-sash and multi-paned casement units.

West Facade

The Ferguson House commands a place of prominence from its site atop a west-facing slope. The home's west facade is adorned by a prominent steeply pitched roof, two steeply pitched gabled dormers, a tall tapered black basalt rock chimney, and a covered side porch. The roof is covered with composition shingles and has widely overhanging eaves with exposed and extended rafters. Wide wood bargeboards outline the gable roof of the dormers and have extended tapered ends. The dormers are clad with wood shingles and retain original six-over-one multi-paned double-hung wood-sash windows. A small shed

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dormer is located between the gabled dormers and is also clad with wood shingles. It supports a trio of double-hung one-over-one vinyl windows, which in the 1990s replaced original multi-paned wood casement windows. The first floor of the west façade is clad with a rubble mix of black basalt rock which extends to grade, and features a center recessed front entry stoop with an eyebrow-shaped eave over the entrance. The recessed entrance is deep and sheltered (almost hidden from view) and is clad with narrow-width horizontal clapboard siding at the walls, shellacked tongue-in-groove wood paneling at the ceiling, and red-glazed ceramic tiles on the floor. Two multi-paned sidelights flank the front door, and two concrete steps with curved corners rise from grade to the front porch entrance. The front entrance is flanked by windows which include a prominent curved, bow front bay north of the entry and a corbelled box bay south of the entry. The bow bay has a row of five multi-paned double-hung wood-sash windows and is clad with black basalt rock which follows the curved shaped of the bow front bay. The box window to the south of the front entrance holds a trio of six-over-one wood casement units, is clad with narrow-width horizontal clapboard siding, and features a curved corbelled base. A prominent tall, tapered chimney abuts the south side of the oriel window and projects through the roof eave of the south gabled dormer at the second floor. Like the first floor facade of the house, the chimney is made of black basalt rubble mix. A multi-paned double-hung wood-sash window is located next south of the chimney at the first floor. The north end of the first floor is dominated by a partial-width covered porch. The porch extends 14 feet northward from the north elevation of the house and is supported by groups of Tuscan columns at the corners. The principal roof of the house extends over the porch as a shallow hip and is embellished with widely overhanging boxed eaves with shallow modillions. The porch deck is made of three-inch-wide fir planks and the porch ceiling is covered with original shellacked three-inch-wide tongue-in-groove wood paneling.

North Elevation

The north elevation of the house is dominated by the gable end of the home's side gable roof, a covered porch at the first floor, and a prominent chimney. Like the west façade, the second floor is clad with wood shingles but in contrast to the west façade, the first floor at the north elevation is clad with narrow-width horizontal wood clapboard siding instead of basalt veneer. The juncture between the first and second floors is accentuated with battered shingles which flare outwards above a narrow wood stringcourse. The chimney is made of black basalt rock rubble mix and projects through the roof eave at the gable peak. The gable peak is highlighted with deep wood bargeboards and reveals widely overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. Fenestration is original with a combination of multi-paned fixed-sash and double-hung windows. Multi-paned French doors open from the porch into the house and are protected with a pair of original wood-framed screened doors.

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South Elevation

The south elevation of the house is similar to the north elevation in gable peak design, cladding, and fenestration. The first floor of the south elevation is clad with narrow-width horizontal wood clapboard siding, and the second floor is clad with wood shingles. Like the north elevation, the juncture between the first and second floors is accentuated with battered shingles which flare outwards above a narrow wood stringcourse. Fenestration patterns are asymmetrical and feature original multi-paned double-hung wood-sash windows. The gable peak is accentuated with deep wood bargeboards and wide eaves with exposed rafters.

East Rear Elevation

The east elevation is located at the rear of the house and is dominated by two steeply pitched intersecting cross gables, a small enclosed covered back porch at the first floor, and a box oriel window at the second floor. The roof has widely overhanging eaves with exposed and extended rafters and wide bargeboards. Like the north and south elevations, the first floor is clad with narrow-width horizontal wood clapboard siding, and the second floor is clad with wood shingles. The juncture between the first and second floors is highlighted with a row of battered shingles and a horizontal wood stringcourse. A back porch is located at the south end of the rear elevation. It measures six feet deep and six feet wide and is covered with a shallow mansard roof. The porch roof is clad with composition shingles and forms a flat deck at the second floor. Like those on the house, the roof eaves of the back porch are boxed in with shallow modillions. Multi-paned fixed-sash and casement windows and a back door enclose the back porch. A box bay supported by scroll-sawn brackets projects two feet from the center of the second floor and is covered with a steeply pitched hip roof with exposed rafters. Fenestration patterns are asymmetrical and include original six-over-one and eight-over-one, double-hung and casement windows.

House Interior

The center front door of the house at the west façade opens into a formal center reception hall at the first floor. As drawn on original c. 1914 plans for the house,¹ the reception hall is spacious, measuring eight feet wide and 20 feet deep. It is handsomely finished with the finest grade Honduras mahogany woodwork which has been burnished to a glowing patina and a rich, deep cherry-brown color. The woodwork includes 10-inch-deep floor and crown molding, paneled wainscoting around the front door and flanking sidelights, paneled doors and double sliding pocket doors, and a formal "grand staircase" which ascends to the second floor. Anchored to the north wall of the reception hall, the staircase has an open stringer, a turned-post balustrade with three balusters to each tread, a wide handrail, and prominent newel posts. A defining feature of the home's grand staircase is the design of the first step and newel post: The first step is

¹ Ely-Marra Collection. Original floor plans for Ferguson House, c. 1914.

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wider than the rest of the steps, extends out to the side, and is defined with a curved tread. Highlighting the circular design, the newel post is round² and is encircled by an extension of the balustrade which forms a spiral around the newel post.

Double pocket doors in the reception hall open north into a living room and south into a formal dining room. A service hall next to the staircase in the reception hall leads through doors to the back of the house. The living room comprises the north one-third of the first floor of the house, and measures 16 feet wide and 31 feet deep. Extending from the front of the house to the rear of the house, the living room features a wide, curved bow front window at the front west wall, double French doors at the north wall which open onto a covered porch, paneled pocket doors at the south wall (which open into the reception hall), a large fireplace on the north wall, and built-in bookcases in the northeast corner of the room and along the east wall. Cast iron radiators are located in the northwest corner and below windows along the east wall. The fireplace has a plain mahogany mantel with a deep mantel shelf, a rectangular firebox opening, and a surround and hearth made of glazed ceramic tile. The tiles are four inches square, reflect a matte finish, and are colored a rich, dark mottled green. The built-in bookcases extend around the northeast corner and east wall of the room at the same height as the fireplace mantel and are adorned with glass doors. The woodwork in the living room reveals a continuation of the same Honduras mahogany woodwork which is located in the center reception hall, and features deep crown and floor molding, pocket doors, French doors, window and door surrounds, mantel, and bookcases. The ceiling is nine feet high and the walls and ceiling are made of lathe-and-plaster construction.

The formal dining room is located in the southwest corner of the first floor of the house and is spacious at 19 feet wide and 15.9 feet deep. Focal points of the dining room include a fireplace on the west wall, a built-in window seat, wood-paneled doors, wood-paneled sliding pocket doors, plate rail, and mahogany woodwork. The plate rail extends around the perimeter of the room with sufficient depth and dado to allow for the display of china plates and other items. The fireplace is a mirror image of the fireplace in the living room. It has three-inch-square ceramic tiles which reveal a light mottled brownish-green color, and are joined with black grout. A built-in window seat is located adjacent north of the fireplace and is constructed of mahogany wood panels.

The reception hall, living room, and dining room all have nine-foot-high ceilings, mahogany woodwork and built-ins, honey-colored oak floors, and original light fixtures. Pictured in c. 1915 photographs of the living and dining rooms, original existing light fixtures include wall sconces, pendant-drop ceiling fixtures, and a chandelier. The wall sconces and chandelier in the dining room are silver-plated, and the wall sconces

² Newel posts at the landing and the top of the stairs are square.

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and pendant-drop light fixtures in the living room are made of brass with crème-colored transparent Italian alabaster shades. Well-preserved in impeccable condition, the pendant-drop light fixtures also retain original satin cording, knots, tassels, fringe work, and superior craftsmanship.

Two doors on the east wall in the dining room open into a kitchen in the southeast corner of the house. Although the kitchen was partially remodeled in 2001, it retains some original built-in cupboards and cabinets, including a flour bin and operational dumbwaiter. A peninsula with a granite countertop extends into the center of the kitchen from original casework along the west wall, and matches the design and style of the original kitchen cabinets. A door in the kitchen in the northeast corner opens to a back entry hall, which has an enclosed staircase to the basement and a back door on the east wall. The kitchen and back entry hall are finished with white-painted pine which was specified on the original c. 1914 plans for the Ferguson House. The floors are made of oak and the ceiling is nine feet high. The walls and ceiling are made of original lathe-and-plaster construction.

The formal "grand staircase" in the center reception hall measures four feet wide, rises to a landing, turns, and ascends to the second floor. Here a built-in bench seat is located under a pair of windows at the east wall landing, permitting natural light to illuminate the stairwell. A center hallway is located on the second floor at the top of the stairs and opens north to a sleeping porch in the northeast corner, a bedroom in the northwest corner, west to a full bathroom at the west wall, south to a bedroom in the southeast corner, and to a master bedroom in the southwest corner of the house. The master bedroom has a fireplace on the west wall and is finished with a painted wood mantel and crème-colored glazed ceramic subway tile at the surround and hearth. The hall bathroom is large with a toilet, bathtub, and pedestal washbasin, all made of porcelain. The floor is covered with half-inch square matte-finish wet-set ceramic tiles, and the walls feature a wood wainscot rail. A built-in medicine cabinet with a mirrored door hangs above the pedestal washbasin.

All of the woodwork on the second floor is painted pine as specified on the original c. 1914 plans except for the interior doors which are finished birch. Door hardware is original and includes brass plates with crystal doorknobs. Ceilings are eight feet high, floors are made of fir planks, and each bedroom has seven-foot-high picture rail molding around the perimeter of the room. A four-foot-wide partially enclosed staircase rises to the attic from the second floor. The attic originally held two rooms: the south room was unfinished storage space while the north room was finished with lathe-and-plaster construction as a bedroom for use by domestic help. In 2001, the attic was remodeled with the addition of a bathroom, and the two rooms were opened up and re-finished as one large office space. The basement is partially finished with poured concrete floor and walls, and a plastered ceiling. A cold-storage room is located in the southeast corner of the basement and is finished with original lathe-and-plaster construction and built-in shelving. Another room located along the north wall is made of wood and was originally built as the "coal

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room" in which coal was stored. The Ferguson House retains its original hot water heating system which includes original cast-iron radiators throughout the house. The water is heated by a gas furnace (replaced coal burner).

Garage (built 1914, contributing)

A double-car garage made of black basalt masonry construction is located behind the Ferguson House in the northeast corner of the property. In 1919, the north part of the garage was sold to the next house north (508 N. Mill Street) and legally continues to be part of that property, however the entire garage is within the boundaries of the nomination. The garage has a low-pitched gable front roof which is covered with composition shingles. The west face of the gable front roof is, however, hidden by a rectangular-shaped false front made of concrete which is clad with black basalt rock. A small fixed-sash multi-paned window is located on the south elevation of the garage and is articulated with a geometric Prairie-style design. A concrete driveway extends east to the garage from Mill Street, past the north elevation of the house. The garage retains excellent exterior architectural integrity.

Retaining Walls (built 1914, contributing)

The garage backs up to a 10-foot-high concrete retaining wall which is clad with a veneer of black basalt rock. Along with the back wall of the garage, the retaining wall extends 87 feet horizontally along the east border of the property and wraps around the southeast corner of the lot. Concrete steps are located at the east retaining wall in the southeast corner of the property and ascend uphill and east to a foot path on the bluff. From the steps, the retaining wall wraps around the southeast corner of the property, retains a lower height of four feet, and extends 18 feet west along the south border. The portion of wall at the south border which extends west from the southeast corner of the property is exposed concrete and is *not* covered with a veneer of basalt rock like the east retaining wall. Built in 1914, the concrete wall with basalt rock veneer is about 24 inches thick and reveals a combination of poured concrete wall and original dry stack rock wall construction intermixed with contemporary repaired rock work and hidden mortar joints. A prominent feature, the rock wall is identified in footprint drawings on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps published in 1922 and 1929.

Built in 1914, a low retaining wall is also located at the front of the property and abuts a paved public sidewalk which runs parallel to Mill Street along the property's west border. The small retaining wall is 14 inches high and is made of poured concrete. It has molded concrete coping along the top edge and extends the full width of the property from the south edge of the driveway at the northwest corner to the southwest corner of the lot. A poured concrete staircase interrupts the retaining wall for four feet at the southwest corner and ascends up a slope to a paved walkway which curves through grounds and garden to the front entrance of the house. The east concrete-and-basalt rock retaining wall, the south concrete retaining wall, and the west concrete retaining wall retain good architectural integrity.

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ORIGINAL APPEARANCE & SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS

In researching the property, original *elevation* drawings were never discovered but *original floor plan* drawings were found for the first and second floors. Comparing the existing house today with the original floor plan, it appears the Ferguson House retains a high level of integrity.

The interior of the house matches the c. 1914 floor plan with exceptions: the original back porch was enclosed with multi-paned fixed-sash and casement windows, the kitchen was remodeled, and the attic was re-finished—all after the original 1914 floor plan was drawn. The basalt rock garage and concrete-and-basalt rock retaining wall appear original as do the concrete retaining wall and concrete steps at the front of the property along North Mill Street.

Modifications to the house include the following:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| <i>1920-1940s</i> | Back porch was enclosed with multi-paned windows. |
| <i>1970s</i> | Non-permanent aluminum storm windows and aluminum window screens were installed over original existing windows (aluminum storm/screens can be easily removed and do not affect the integrity of the house). |
| <i>1990s</i> | <p>A row of three wood-sash casement windows in the second-floor bathroom were replaced with vinyl units.</p> <p>Kitchen and breakfast room were remodeled with original casework intact and a new built-in cabinet and built-in peninsula that match original casework, first-floor re-plastered and repainted, second-floor re-plastered and repainted in hallway, third-floor attic remodeled, entire interior of house at first, second, and third floors repainted, and entire home completely rewired.</p> |
| <i>2001</i> | The south half of an original casement window at the third floor east rear elevation of house was rebuilt to match the existing original north half of the window; original 1/6 double-hung wood-sash window in gable peak of south elevation replaced with duplicate window with same dimensions, reveal depth, and muntin-mullion configurations; all four original awning-type basement windows replaced with identical awning-type units with wood sash (owner was able to save one original window as model for replacement windows). |

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2006-09

Composition shingles installed on roof, south gable peak shingle siding replaced with exact duplicate shingle siding, repairs to roof eaves, bargeboards, and exterior surfaces of house completed. West and north elevations of house repainted.

With few modifications, the Ferguson House retains excellent exterior and interior architectural integrity in location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association.

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes 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" in all the boxes 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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 Engineering

Record# _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1914

Significant Dates

1914

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Skow, Nissen (Builder)

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office

10020996



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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1914, the Florence Ferguson House is a well-preserved artistic, eclectic expression of the Tudor Revival style with influences from English Cottage, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival traditions. The home, along with a basalt rock-clad garage and basalt rock retaining walls, was erected for Florence Hubbard Ferguson, wife of Dr. Talbert Dinsmore Ferguson, a prominent Colfax, Washington physician who practiced medicine in the late 1890s and early 1900s. After her husband's early death in 1908, Florence Ferguson commissioned noted Colfax contractor, Nis Skow, to construct the Ferguson House which was mentioned in two 1914 *Colfax Gazette* articles and had a reported construction cost of \$6,000 to \$7,000.¹ For 49 years, the house was solely owned and maintained by Florence Ferguson who resided in it from 1914 to 1963, which defines the property's period of significance. During this time, the home, its rock retaining walls, and rock-clad garage achieved importance in the area of architecture as exemplary depictions and eclectic examples of the Tudor Revival style and as products of accomplished builder, Nis Skow. The Ferguson House, garage, and retaining walls retain excellent architectural integrity, architectural and historical significance, and meet eligibility requirements for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Colfax, WA

The small agricultural town of Colfax, WA is located 60 miles south of Spokane in the center of the Palouse, an area known as one of the most fertile and productive dry land farming regions in the world. The town of Colfax was platted in 1872 and the following year, articles of incorporation were granted to Colfax pioneer property owners H. S. Hollingsworth, Julia Ann Cox, and James Nosler. They founded a development company, called it the Colfax Town Company, and began selling city blocks and individual lots of platted land in Colfax to real estate investors and prospective property owners. The investors and property owners in turn built industrial shops, commercial buildings, hotels and saloons, and single-family homes up and down Main Street, a wide north-south thoroughfare which runs through the center of town along State Highway 195. By 1873, Colfax boasted a livery stable, a hotel, a blacksmith shop, two stores, a school, and the town's Main Street, a partially graded road with two street lights.² In 1870, the United States Census recorded a population of only two people in Colfax but by 1880, the population had jumped to 450. In 1900 the population was 2,121 and by 1950, the town's population had peaked at more than 3,000, the highest yet to date recorded population in Colfax.³

¹ *Colfax Gazette*, 8 Oct 1914, 6 Nov 1914.

² Erickson, Edith E. *Colfax 100 Plus*. Colfax: Erickson, 1981, and current census data for Colfax.

³ *Ibid*.

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On July 1, 1874, Hezekiah S. Hollingsworth was granted a land patent from the United States Federal Government for 160 acres of land in Colfax. The homestead was located in the east half of the northwest quarter of the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 14, Township 16, Range 43, East of the Willamette Meridian.⁴ Within his 160-acre purchase, Hollingsworth platted out a residential neighborhood along North Mill Street between Main Street and a steep basalt bluff which is located just east of Mill Street. Lots located along the east side of Mill Street between the street and the steep bluff were platted with widths ranging from 45 to 90 feet and depths ranging from 100 to 150 feet. Hollingsworth and his wife, Josephine Hollingsworth, were two of Colfax's earliest pioneers, city leaders, and wealthiest residents. They built a fancy house on the east side of North Mill Street just south of North Street in the 1870s and "set the stage" for future home-building in Colfax. By 1888, a handful of single-family homes had been erected north and south of the Hollingsworth House along the east and west sides of Mill Street.⁵ Between 1900 and 1920, additional single-family homes were built with larger footprints, resulting in the neighborhood's significance as one of the most architecturally prominent areas in Colfax. One of the homes erected in the neighborhood was the Florence Ferguson House at 504 N. Mill Street.

Dr. Talbert Dinsmore Ferguson & Florence Hubbard Ferguson

Both Dr. Ferguson and his wife, Florence Ferguson, were born in Tennessee and came to Colfax in 1893. Dr. Ferguson established a medical practice as a family practice physician with offices in the Ellis Block in downtown Colfax and was regarded as "one of the [area's] leading [medical] practitioners."⁶ He devoted "himself diligently to the well-being of his many patients"⁷ and "made many warm friends by his professional conduct and genial disposition."⁸ He took "great interest in the promotion of...various societies for the increase of medical and surgical knowledge" and was a member of the Inland Empire Clinical Society as well as various philanthropic and fraternal organizations.⁹ After a 15-year-long practice in Colfax, Dr. Ferguson died a premature death in 1908 at the age of 53.

After her husband's death, Florence Ferguson decided to build a house on Lot 6 on the east side of North Mill Street for herself and her daughter, Bessie Ferguson. A frame house constructed in the 1880s stood on the site and was home to her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Hubbard. After she relocated them to a house across the street, Florence razed the existing c. 1880s home and prepared the lot for new construction. She

⁴ Book A, page 335, Whitman County Auditor, Colfax, WA.

⁵ 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

⁶ *An Illustrated History of Whitman County*, 1901, p. 336.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ "Death of Dr. T. D. Ferguson, Succumbs After a Lingering Illness of Several Months." *The Weekly Commoner*, 9 Oct 1908.

⁹ *An Illustrated History of Whitman County*, 1901, p. 336.

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commissioned noted Colfax contractor, Nis Skow, to build a house on the site, and was mentioned in two newspaper articles printed in 1914 in the *Colfax Gazette*:

To Build \$7,000 House

Mrs. Ferguson Starts Improvements on North Mill Street—Others Follow

*Mrs. Ferguson has torn down the old house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard (her parents), and has begun excavation for a modern residence to cost about \$7,000. N. Skow is the builder.*¹⁰

Many Building Permits Issued—City Shows Progress with Applications from Builders, Totaling over \$10,000

*The permits granted included a \$6,000 residence for Mrs. Florence Ferguson on North Mill Street.*¹¹

After Nis Skow completed construction of the Florence Ferguson House in 1914, he leased Florence Ferguson's previous residence next door north at 508 N. Mill Street. Florence Ferguson moved out and Nis Skow moved in, and in 1919, Florence sold the property at 508 N. Mill Street to Nis. Florence then resided in her new home at 504 N. Mill Street for 49 years from 1914 until her death at age 95 in 1963.¹²

Subsequent Homeowners

In 1957, Florence Ferguson sold the Ferguson House to her daughter, Bessie Ferguson McNair, as a "life estate" which enabled Florence to live in the home for as long as she wanted or until her death. In 1963 after Florence Ferguson's death, her daughter, Bessie Ferguson McNair, sold the property to E. E. & Pearl Akin for \$16,500. In 2000, Colfax artists, Timothy Ely and Ann Marra, bought the property for \$136,500.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Florence Ferguson House is an artistic example of the Tudor Revival style with influences from English Cottage, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman traditions, and embodies distinctive elements and architectural characteristics of those styles. The Florence Ferguson House achieved architectural significance during the home's "period of significance" from 1914 to 1963, the time in which Florence Ferguson built and lived in the Ferguson House.

Tudor Revival Style

The English Tudor style was adopted throughout the British Isles and developed during the reign of Queen Elizabeth (1558-1603) and the reign of James I (1603-1625), reaching a period that fostered the

¹⁰ *Colfax Gazette*, October 8, 1914

¹¹ *Colfax Gazette*, November 6, 1914

¹² "Florence Ferguson Obituary." *Colfax Gazette*, 17 Jan 1963.

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FERGUSON, FLORENCE, HOUSE
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construction of many of England's great manor houses. The Tudor Revival style was used for a variety of homes, from baronial mansions to row houses, to small countryside cottages. Borrowing architectural elements from the English Tudor tradition, the American Tudor Revival style originated 200 years later and enjoyed widespread popularity throughout the United States from 1890 to about 1940. Early American examples tended to be expansive, architect-designed homes. "The style quickly faded from fashion in the late 1930s but became popular" again in a modified resurgence during "the Neo-Eclectic Movement of the 1970s and 1980s."¹³

Style defining features of the Tudor Revival style include built dates between 1890 and 1940 in America, steeply pitched roofs (usually side gabled), steeply pitched cross gables or dormers at the façade, decorative half-timbering (present in about half of examples), tall narrow windows (usually in multiple groups and with multi-pane glazing), massive tapered or stepped chimneys, masonry wall cladding (stone, brick, sometimes stucco), and recessed front entrances.

The Florence Ferguson House was built in 1914 during the time the Tudor Revival tradition was popular in America, and retains many features from the style, including a very steeply pitched side gable roof, steeply pitched front-facing gabled dormers, tall narrow windows with multi-paned glazing, two massive tall tapered chimneys, the use of stone masonry as cladding material, and a recessed front entrance. As reported by Lee & Virginia McAlester, "stone trim is common on Tudor houses...but only a relatively small proportion have stone as the principal wall material. These were principally large landmark houses [built] before 1920."¹⁴ The Ferguson House falls into this category with a built date of 1914 and the prominent use of black basalt stone cladding at the west façade of the house.

English Cottage-Style Influence

English Cottage (sometimes called Storybook Cottage) is considered by many architectural historians to be a subtype of the Tudor Revival style. Beginning with San Diego's Panama-California Exposition in 1915 and memories of European architecture described by returning World War I American GIs, a long-running craze for European revival styles surged into popularity in America, and authentically executed period revival homes reached zenith proportions in the late teens, 1920s, and 1930s. The elements of exaggeration, artifice, and humor were added to the pot of period revival architecture, resulting in a style that evoked storybook Hansel & Gretel-type homes and dwellings. It is no surprise that the most theatrical of all homes of this type were built in Hollywood, America's capital for make-believe. An exaggerated look of antiquity was esteemed and achieved through irregular lines, rough textures, weather-beaten looks, roof shingles set in wave patterns, eyebrow and "Rapunzel" windows, "natural" products (stone, brick,

¹³ McAlester, Lee & Virginia. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Knopf Publishers, 1989, p. 358.

¹⁴ *Ibid*, p. 355.

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slate, ceramic tile, wood shingles, stucco, leaded glass, hand-wrought iron), and very steeply pitched roof lines with overhanging eaves and “catslide” roof designs. The whole idea of the English Cottage influence applied to Tudor Revival-style homes was to transport one back to bucolic happy times in Tudor England and to the whimsical slate and thatch-roofed cottages that dot the English countryside. Cottage designs were especially widespread in America during the 1920s and 1930s and were used for homes, apartment “row” houses, Hollywood set designs, actor’s homes, and as illustrations in children’s books, puzzles, toys, and greeting cards.¹⁵

Style-defining features of the English Cottage subtype include built dates in the teens-1920s-1930s, forms-features-finishes borrowed from the Tudor Revival style, pronounced and especially prominent steeply pitched roofs, swooping catslide roof designs, irregular roofing material and eave designs (thatch or thatch look-alikes, rolled composition shingles, slate, rock, wood shingles, clay—some with wave patterns, rolled edges, eyebrow eaves), very tall narrow windows (sometimes called “Rapunzel” windows, often leaded), boxed and bay windows (including bow front, beveled bay, corbelled oriel bays), windows with irregular glazing (wavy glass) and sometimes bottle glass (made of round bottle bases), exterior cladding of brick-stone-stucco or combinations which produce an artificial look of antiquity or age, clinker brick (sometimes with protruding cobbles or formed as a rubble mix with river rock or field rock), river rock and field stone used at roofs-walls-foundations-steps-retaining walls, and battered walls, tapered chimneys, and catslide roofs all combined to give the illusion of age or antiquity.

Although built before World War I, the Ferguson House is an early example of the English Cottage influence and embodies defining features of the type. At the Ferguson House, English Cottage features include a very steeply pitched prominent roof, eyebrow eave articulation, a deeply recessed front entrance, black basalt stone cladding at the home’s façade, a tall irregular and tapered chimney which is located in a prominent position at the front of the house, battered (flared) wall junctures between the first and second floor stories, and bow and bay windows (including a “Rapunzel window”).

As a prominent English Cottage feature, the very steeply pitched roof of the Ferguson House is so large and steep that it is one of the home’s strongest focal points. The eyebrow eave over the front entrance reveals a free-floating whimsical design, an important tenet of the English Cottage subtype. Almost hidden from view, the front entrance of the home is deeply recessed like a Hansel & Gretel cottage in the woods and belies the “protection theme” around which all residential entrances were developed and designed in Tudor times (a recessed entrance was thought to protect the home from weather, wild animals, and uninvited intruders). The battered (flared) wall juncture between the first and second stories of the house gives the

¹⁵ Gellner, Arrol and Douglas Keister. *Storybook Style: America’s Whimsical Homes of the Twenties*. New York: Penguin Putnam, 2001.

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illusion of age with gravity pulling down the wall. The home's prominent use of black basalt rubble mix is reminiscent of blue/black-colored slate cottages built in Wales during the 1700s and 1800s, and renders a perception of age to the design of the Ferguson House. Rhythmic curves and fanciful shapes are found in a prominent curved bow front window and a corbelled box oriel bay window at the front of the house. The rock rubble mix wall cladding curves around the base of the bowed bay and along with the eyebrow eave over the front entrance, produces a relaxed rhythmical quality to the home's west façade design. Lastly, the boxed oriel window, articulated with a deep corbelled base, is a throwback to "Medieval English architecture"¹⁶ and is sometimes called a "Rapunzel window."

Craftsman & Colonial Revival-Style Influences

The Ferguson House includes influences from the Craftsman and Colonial Revival traditions. Craftsman-style elements are found in the widely overhanging eaves with exposed and extended rafters, battered wall junctures between first and second floors, and the use of "natural" building materials such as wood shingles and black basalt stone. Colonial Revival-style influence is especially seen in round tapered porch columns.

The Florence Ferguson House is a one-of-a-kind design and dwelling in Colfax. No dwelling could be found that resemble it in Colfax, Spokane, or the surrounding region. Due to its prominent style, size, finish, and fabric, the Ferguson House was more than likely designed by an architect. In addition, it appears that Florence Ferguson had the financial means to hire an architect to custom-design a home. Undocumented legend from the Ferguson family recalls that the design of the Ferguson House was based on homes of similar designs which were built in Tennessee, the state from which Florence Ferguson moved to Colfax in 1893.

Nis Skow, Building Contractor (1866-1945)

According to family archives and public records, Nis Skow (also Schau, Skov, Skou) was born in Denmark in 1866, came with his family to America in 1871, settled in Iowa, and began building houses before he was 20 years old.¹⁷ In 1887, city directories list Nis Skow living in Des Moines, Iowa where he worked as a "Salvation Army Officer," but a few years later he moved to the Chicago area where he helped with construction of buildings that were erected for the 1893 Chicago World's Fair & Columbian Exposition. Although family records indicate Nis Skow was an accomplished butcher and brick/stone mason, his professional employment was listed as "carpenter and building contractor."¹⁸ In 1907 he left Illinois and came to Valleyford, Washington, an agricultural community a few miles southeast of Spokane. He subsequently moved to Spokane, and built his first house in Colfax in 1911. He then moved to Colfax

¹⁶ Harris, Cyril M. *Dictionary of Architecture & Construction, Third Edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000, p. 343.

¹⁷ Skow Family records, Richard Bentley, RichBentley@sbcglobal.net

¹⁸ Ibid.

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FERGUSON, FLORENCE, HOUSE
WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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around 1912, and constructed several other homes and business in the community. In 1923 he moved to Oakland, California where he died in 1945 at the age of 79.

During his career, Nis Skow was esteemed for his carpentry and construction expertise, and attention to detail. As recalled in 2008, Nis *"was very meticulous, and built entire houses himself from bottom to top without relying on the variety of specialists or sub-contractors common in the trade today. A pencil was not adequate for marking cuts on lumber—the line was too wide. He used the tip of his knife to scribe a line instead."*¹⁹

In 1909, Nis Skow was associated with the Spokane architectural firm of Whitehouse & Price when he built an addition onto a house at 711 West Shoshone Place in Spokane (Whitehouse & Price designed the home), and may have worked in collaboration with other professionals during his career. Not much is known about Nis Skow but it is documented that he built the following:

1. Valleyford, WA	Nathaniel A. Hamley House	built 1907
2. Valleyford, WA	brick schoolhouse	built 1907-08
3. 711 W. Shoshone, Spokane, WA	house addition	built 1909
4. 2222 W. Sherman, Spokane, WA	single-family house	built 1909
5. 911 S. East Street, Colfax, WA	Charles MacKenzie House	built 1911
6. 502 N. Mill Street, Colfax, WA	Dr. Palamountain House	built 1913
7. 108 W. James Street, Colfax, WA	F. A. Russell House	built 1914
8. 504 N. Mill Street, Colfax, WA	Florence Ferguson House	built 1914
9. 108 W. Fairview, Colfax, WA	Otto C. Glaser House	built 1915-16
10. 109 N. Mill Street, Colfax, WA	United Methodist Church (rebuild)	built 1920
11. 826 Walavista Ave, Oakland, CA	Dr. Palamountain House	built 1920-21

The above-referenced documented record of work that Nis Skow completed includes a few buildings, one schoolhouse, and one church, but most of his work was dedicated to single-family homes. It is not known if Nis regularly built houses from his own designs, or if he used plans from architects, builders, home designers, and/or house plan books/magazines. What is known is that Nis Skow constructed well-built homes in a variety of styles with a variety of materials in a variety of locations. Styles he constructed include Arts & Crafts, Craftsman, Colonial & Tudor Revivals, and Contemporary. Materials include brick, stone, stucco, wood shingles, wood clapboard, interior woodwork (oak, fir, pine, mahogany, birch, maple, cherry), and metals and glass. Locations include Iowa, Illinois, Washington State, and California. Nis Skow was an accomplished builder, and the Florence Ferguson House—one of the finest homes in Colfax,

¹⁹ Ibid, 2008.

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Washington—is an exemplary illustration of his knowledge of popular house styles during the early 1900s and his exacting and artistic contracting skills.²⁰

Summary

The Florence Ferguson House achieved historic and architectural significant from 1914 to 1963 as a fine, eclectic example of the Tudor Revival tradition with English Cottage, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival-style influences, and as a fine example of the accomplished carpentry and contractor work of prominent Colfax builder, Nis Skow. Architecturally significant, the property is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

²⁰ Current Ferguson House property owners Tim Ely and Ann Marra retain original blueprint floor plans for the first and second floors of the Ferguson House. Frustratingly, the bottom right corners of the plans—which probably held the name and signature of the designer—are missing. It is not known if Nis Skow designed the home or if it were designed by someone else, but it *is* known that Nis Skow built the property.

10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>11</u> Zone	<u>4</u> <u>72</u> <u>337</u> Easting	<u>51</u> <u>92</u> <u>466</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification

See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Linda Yeomans, Consultant</u>	(Edited by DAHP Aug 2010)
organization	<u>Historic Preservation Planning & Design</u>	date <u>30 June 2010</u>
street & number	<u>501 West 27th Avenue</u>	telephone <u>(509) 456-3828</u>
city or town	<u>Spokane</u>	state <u>WA</u> zip code <u>99203</u>

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 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 (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name	<u>Timothy Ely and Ann Marra</u>		
street & number	<u>504 N. Mill Street</u>	telephone	<u>(509) 397-3573</u>
city or town	<u>Colfax</u>	state	<u>WA</u> zip code <u>99111</u>

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FERGUSON, FLORENCE, HOUSE
WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Section number 9&10

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

An Illustrated History of Whitman County, State of Washington. Spokane: W. H. Lever Publishing, 1901.

"Death of Dr. T. D. Ferguson." *The Weekly Commoner*, 9 Oct 1908.

Ely-Marra Collection. Original 1914 floor plans for 504 N. Mill Street, Colfax, WA.

Gellner, Arrol and Douglas Keister. *Storybook Style: America's Whimsical Homes of the Twenties.* New York: Penguin Publishers, 2001.

Harris, Cyril M. *Dictionary of Architecture & Construction, Third Edition.* New York: McGraw-Hill Publishers, 2000.

McAlester, Lee & Virginia. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* New York: Knopf, 1989.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. 1888-1928. Spokane Public Library, Spokane, WA.

U. S. Federal Census Records, 1900. Spokane Public Library, Spokane, WA.

Whitman County public records. Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, WA.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is located in the Liberty Park Addition of City of Colfax, Washington Block 6, Lot 6 and the NW corner of lot 7. It is located in the north ½ of Section 14, Township 16, Range 43 East.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes entire urban parcel associated with the Florence Ferguson House and part of the adjacent lot containing the connected garage structure.

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Section number 9&10

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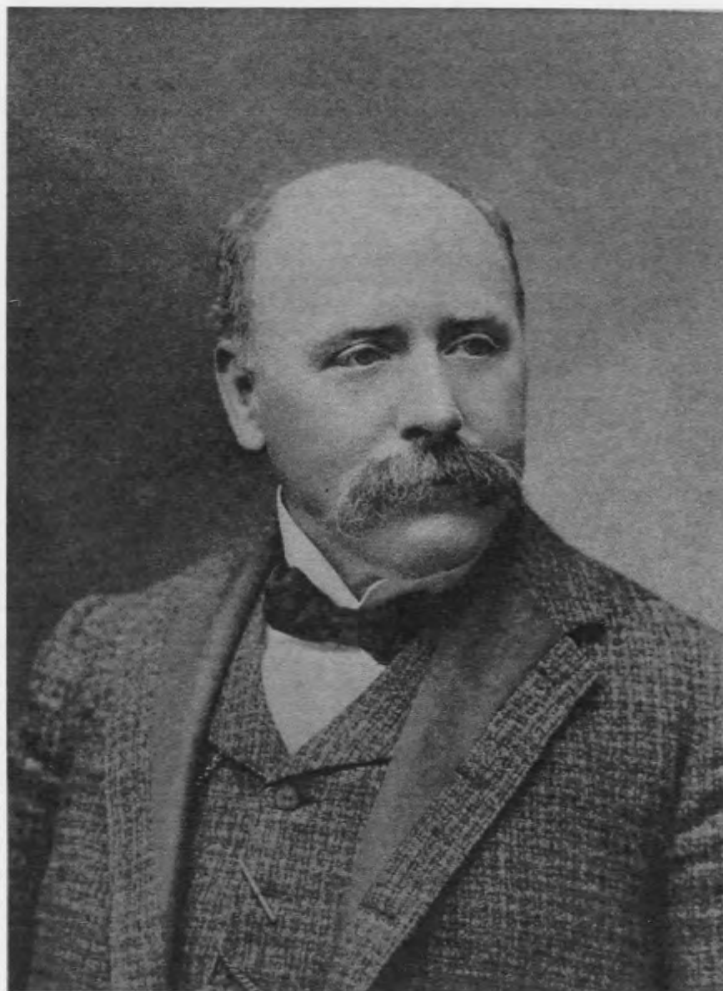
PHOTOGRAPHS

All photographs were taken by the author with a digital camera (12 pixels) in 2010. Circa 1915 and circa 1930 photographs were scanned and developed from original images. A CD of all photographs remains with Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation in Olympia, WA.

- Photo 1 West face of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking east.
- Photo 2 North elevation of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking southeast.
- Photo 3 North elevation porch detail of Florence Ferguson House in 2010.
- Photo 4 West face of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking southeast.
- Photo 5 West face detail of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking southeast.
- Photo 6 West face detail of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking northeast.
- Photo 7 West face chimney detail of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking northeast.
- Photo 8 Rear east elevation of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking south.
- Photo 9 Rear east elevation of Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking northwest.
- Photo 10 West face and northwest corner of Florence Ferguson garage in 2010, looking northeast.
- Photo 11 West face of rock retaining wall in behind Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking east.
- Photo 12 West face of concrete steps at retaining wall behind Florence Ferguson House in 2010, looking southeast.
- Photo 13 View of center reception hall at first floor (note multi-paned door and sidelights, original light fixture, original woodwork), looking west and northwest through windows which are located on west face of house (row of windows are in the LR which is adjacent north of reception hall) in 2010.
- Photo 14 View of formal reception hall stairs at first floor, looking east in 2010.
- Photo 15 View of living room in 2010, looking east.
- Photo 16 View of dining room in 2010, looking south.
- Photo 17 View of kitchen in 2010, looking southwest.
- Photo 18 View of original bathtub, bathtub fixtures, and ceramic tile floor in 2010 (located on second floor).
- Photo 19 Scanned image of circa 1930s portrait of Florence Ferguson.
- Photo 20 Scanned image of circa 1915 photograph of living room in Ferguson House, looking east.
- Photo 21 Scanned image of circa 1915 photograph of dining room in Ferguson House, looking south.



Florence Ferguson – 1915



Dr. T.D. Ferguson – c. 1900



Nis Skow – c.1900

EXAMPLES of NIS SKOW PROJECTS



711 W. Shoshone, Spokane – Built 1909, addition



2222 S. Sherman St, Spokane – Built 1909



Dr. Palamountain House
502 W. N Mill St., Colfax – Built 1913



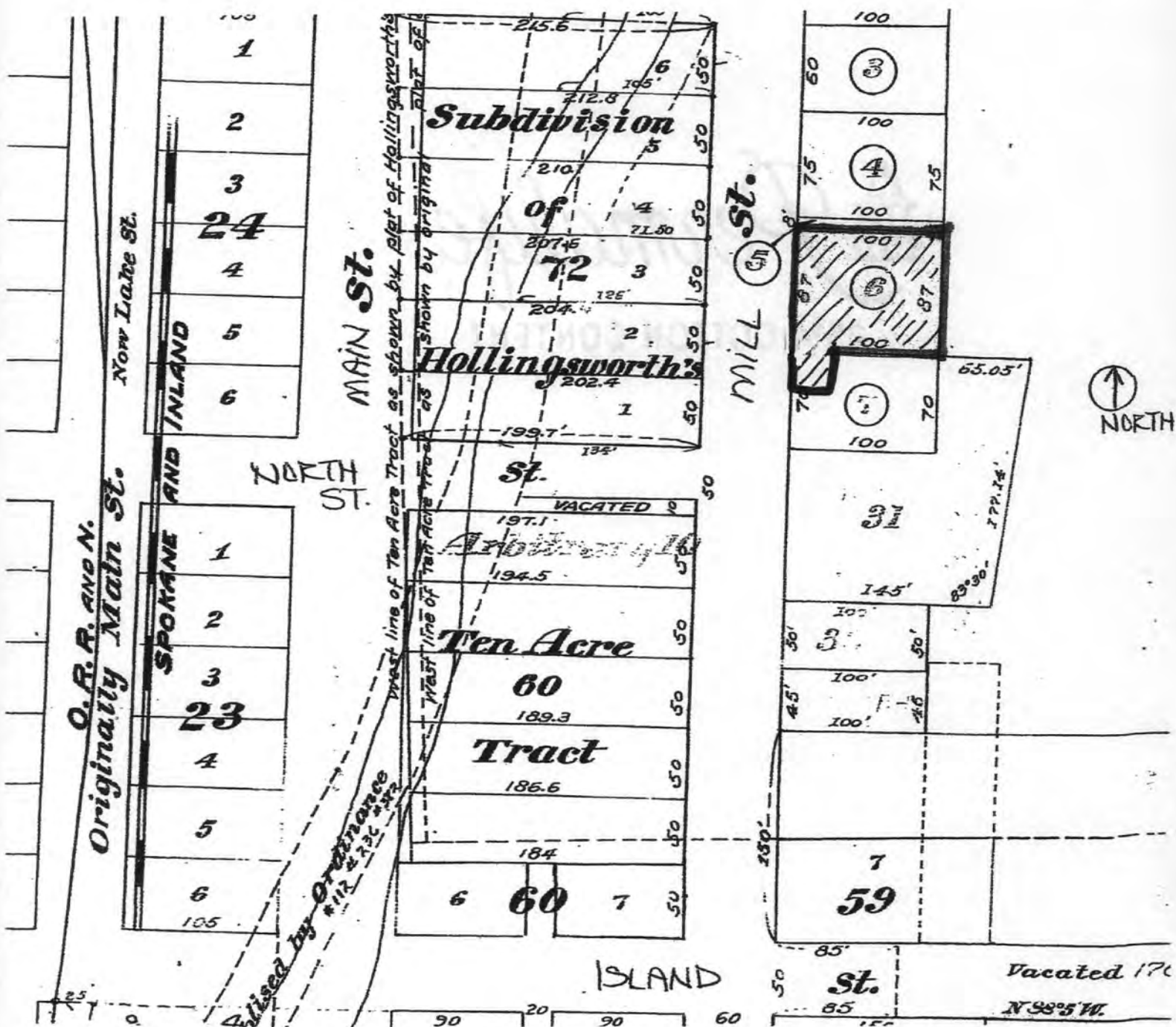
Otto Glaser House
108 W. Fairview, Colfax – Built 1916



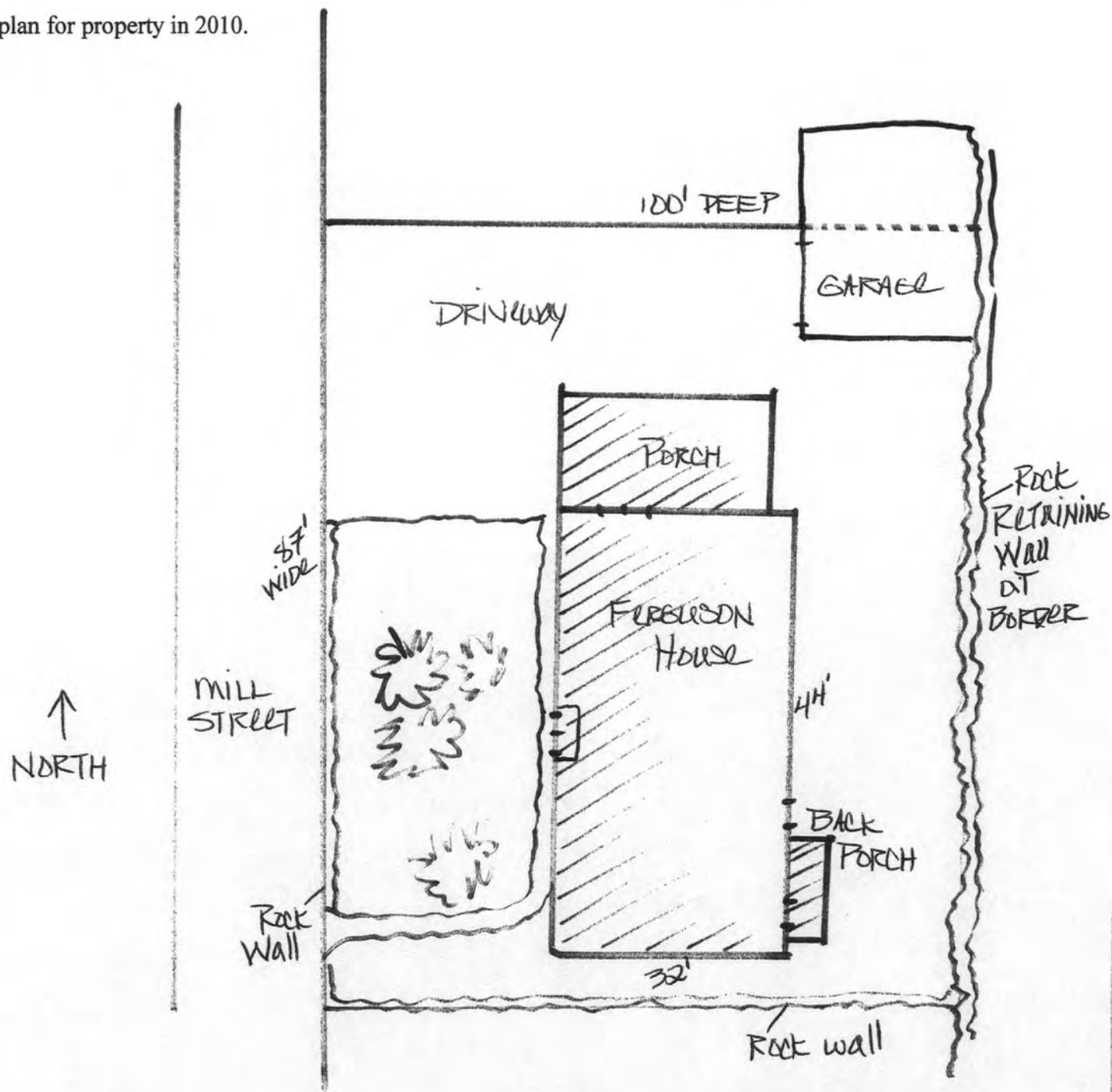
Florence Ferguson House

504 N. Mill Street
Colfax, WA 9911
Whitman Co.

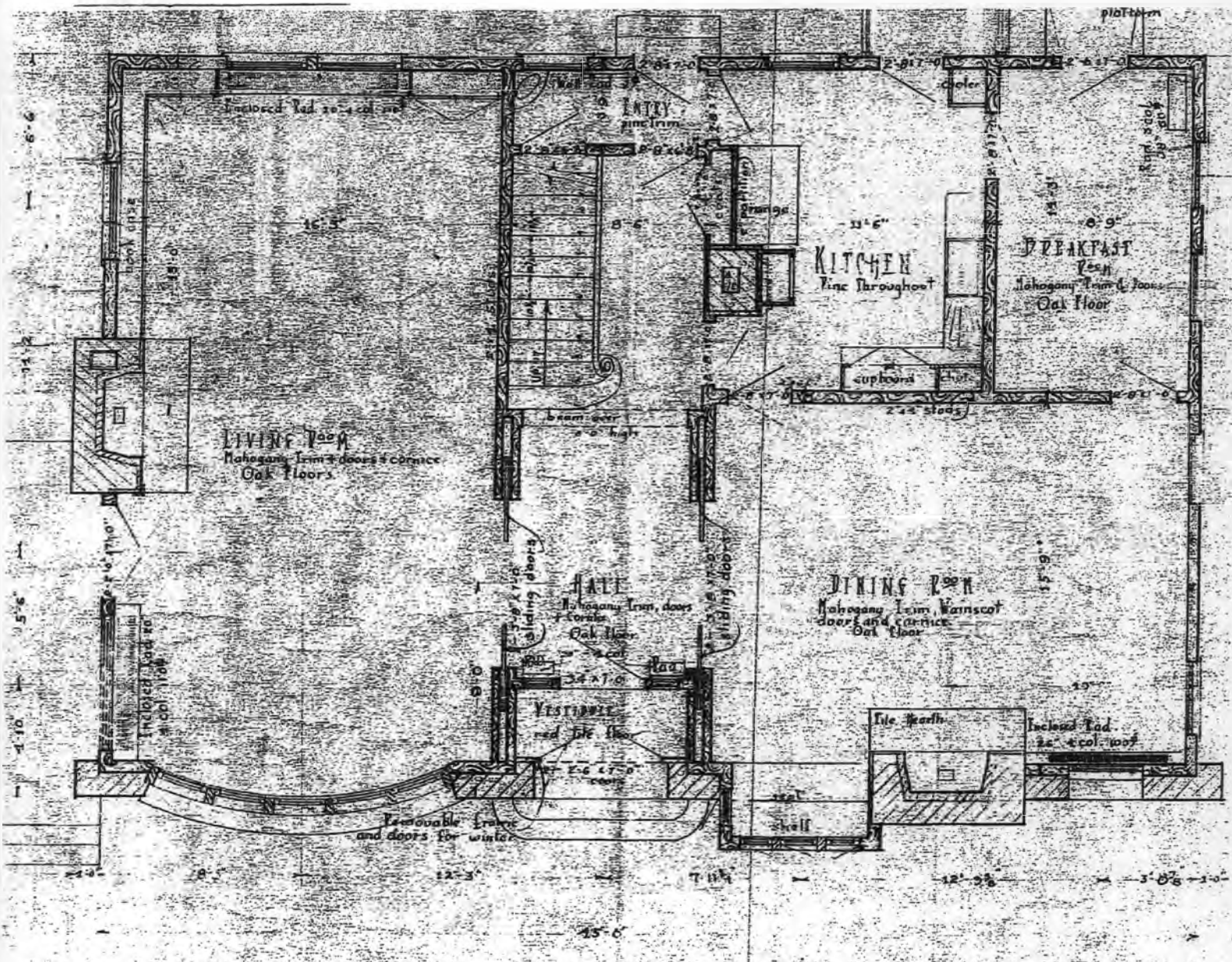
Colfax plat map of Original City of Colfax Addition, Arb 6.



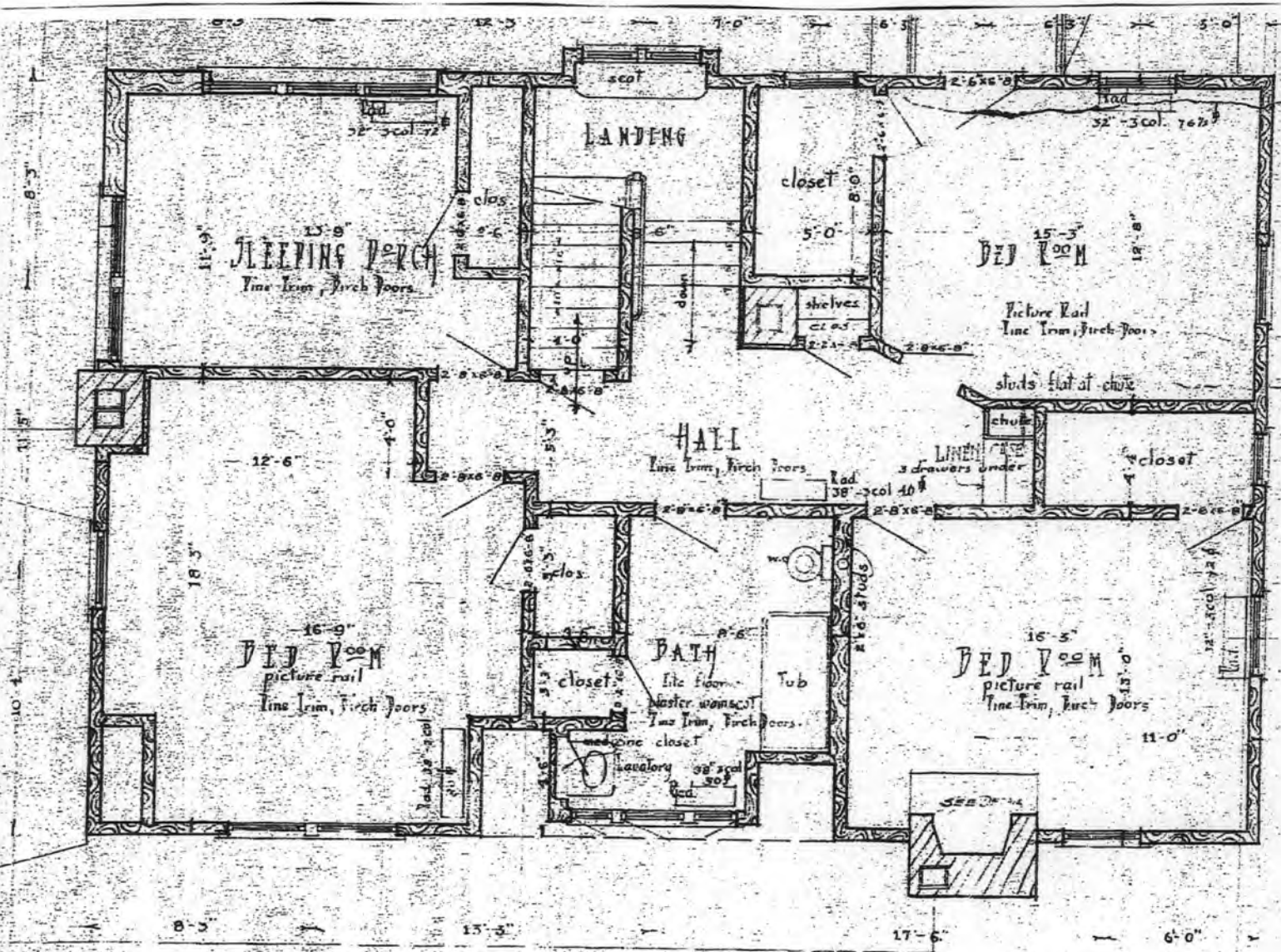
Site plan for property in 2010.



Circa 1914 floor plan for first floor of Ferguson House. Plan not changed except in kitchen where wall between breakfast room (SE corner of house) and kitchen was removed and space was remodeled for use as kitchen. Door on north wall of kitchen that opens from kitchen to service hall by stairs was removed (now a wall).



Circa 1914 floor plan for second floor of Ferguson House.



Florence Ferguson House

504 N. Mill Street
Colfax, WA 99111

"To Build \$7,000 House: Mrs. Ferguson Starts Improvements on North Mill Street—Others Follow." *Colfax Gazette*, 8 Oct 1914.

"Many Building Permits Issued." *Colfax Gazette*, 6 Nov 1914.

TO BUILD \$7000 HOUSE.
Mrs. Ferguson Starts Improvement on North Mill St.—Others Follow.
Mrs. Florence Ferguson has torn down the old house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard and has begun excavation for a modern residence to cost about \$7000. N. Skow is the builder.
J. F. Hubbard has purchased the John Ellis house immediately north of the court house and is filling in the rear of the lot with dirt taken from the excavation for the Ferguson house. He will also raise the house and put on another story making it a modern residence.

THE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1914
MANY BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED
City Shows Progress with Applications from Builders Totalling over \$10,000.00—Council Has Busy Session.
Five building permits received the O. K. of the city council Monday night and indicate that something is doing in Colfax even though business throughout the country is at a low ebb.
The permits granted include a \$6000 residence for Mrs. Florence Ferguson on North Mill street, a \$1500 residence for F. M. Smith on Thorn street, a \$2000 greenhouse for Roy Endsley on Park street, a storage building 12x24 feet for T. V. Blackburns on South Mill street, and a private garage for F. M. Smith on Thorn street.

Florence Ferguson House

504 N. Mill Street
Colfax, WA 99111

"Florence Ferguson, Obituary." *Colfax Gazette*, 17 January 1963.

Florence Ferguson

Private funeral services for Mrs. Florence S. Ferguson, 95, were held at the family home Saturday, with the Revs. Orland Scott and Milton Andrews officiating. She was buried in the Colfax Cemetery.

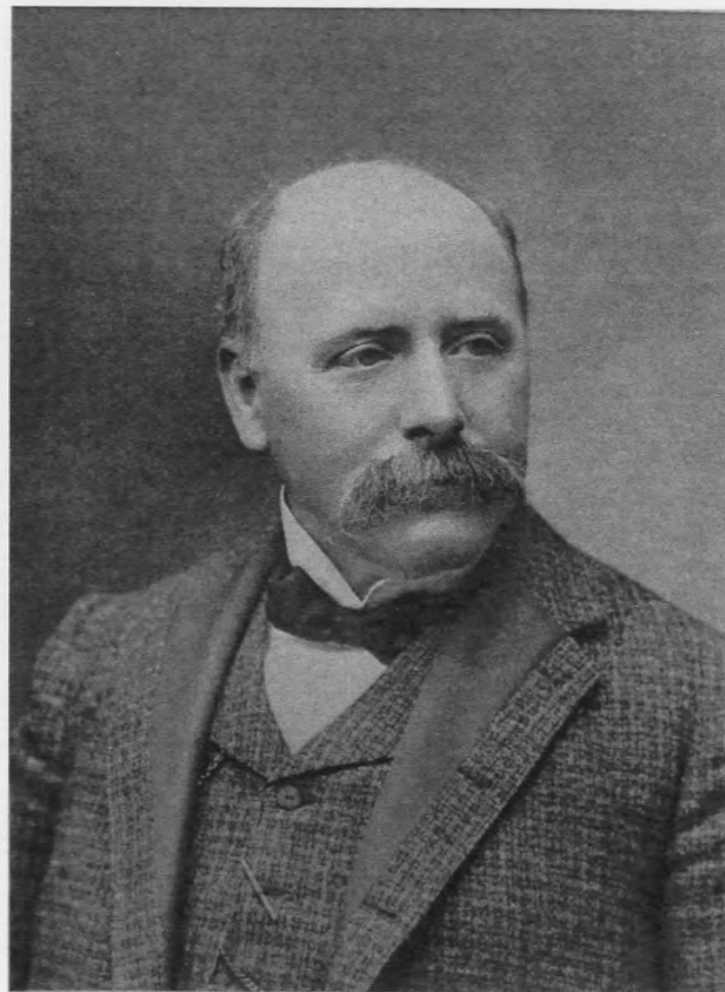
Mrs. Ferguson, a resident of Colfax since 1893, died at her home January 9th.

Born in Greenville, Tennessee, she was married to Dr. T. D. Ferguson in 1888. He died in 1908.

Mrs. Ferguson is survived by a daughter, Ms. James McNair, Spokane; three grandchildren; two great grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. John D. Ellis, Spokane, and Mrs. Katherine Armstrong, Altadena, CA; four nephews; Leon Ellis, Spokane; Dean Hubbard, Colfax; Carl Hubbard, Eugene, OR; Tracy Hubbard, CA; and a niece, Mildred Armstrong, Altadena, CA.



Florence Ferguson – c. 1930



Dr. T.D. Ferguson – c. 1910



Nissen "Nis" Skow – c.1918

EXAMPLES of "NIS" SKOW PROJECTS



711 W. Shoshone, Spokane – Built 1909, addition



2222 S. Sherman St, Spokane – Built 1909



Dr. Palamountian House
502 W. N Mill St., Colfax – Built 1913



Otto Glaser House
108 W. Fairview, Colfax – Built 1916

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY FERGUSON, Florence, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WASHINGTON, Whitman

DATE RECEIVED: 10/22/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/22/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/07/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/07/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000996

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: Y PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT ___ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RETURN
SEE ATTACHED COMMENTS

RECOM./CRITERIA RETURN

REVIEWER PAUL R. LUSIGUAN DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE 202.354.2229 DATE 12/7/10

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

FLORENCE FERGUSON HOUSE

Whitman County, WA

National Register of Historic Places - Return Comments:

The current nomination is being returned for technical revisions regarding the boundaries of the nominated property. The basic documentation appears to outline a property worthy of listing in the National Register. Approval will likely be completed upon correction of the items noted below and resubmission of the required materials to the National Park Service.

Boundary

The current narrative [Page 7.6] and map appear to show the boundary line bisecting the historic two-car garage at the rear of the property. Although the northern portion of the resource was sold to an adjacent land owner, the original resource was built as a single building. Nomination boundaries cannot pass through a resource. They must include all or none of the identified resource.

Classification

The correct Category of Property should be noted as: *Building*.
[Only one category should be selected for each nomination.]

Photographs

The current nomination was not accompanied by a disk containing electronic images of the digital photographs.

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me at the number or e-mail listed below.



Paul R. Lusignan, Historian
(for) Keeper of the National Register
(202) 354-2229; Paul_lusignan@nps.gov

S:\nr\lusi\slrtemp\ferguson.rtn

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 10000996

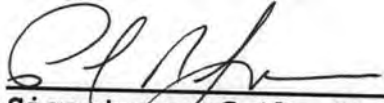
Date Listed: 4/19/2011

Florence Ferguson House
Property Name

Whitman WA
County State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

4/19/11
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Classification

The correct Category of Property should be noted as: Building.
[Only one category should be selected for each nomination.]

These clarifications were confirmed with the WA SHPO office.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Fergusson, Florence, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: WASHINGTON, Whitman

DATE RECEIVED: 4/08/11

DATE OF PENDING LIST:

DATE OF 16TH DAY:

DATE OF 45TH DAY:

5/24/11

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000996

DETAILED EVALUATION:

___ACCEPT___RETURN___REJECT___DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Florence Ferguson House meets National Register Criterion C at the local level in the area of Architecture. Built in 1914, the house is a fine local example of early twentieth century Arts & Crafts-inspired residential design, incorporating English Cottage, Tudor, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival elements. The work of the respected local builder Nis Skow, the house is among the community's finest period designs.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion C

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignan

DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 4/19/2011

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y/N)



1. FLORENCE FERGUSON HOUSE
504 ~~W~~ N. MAIN
COLFAX, WA 99111



2.

~~1.~~

FERGUSON HOUSE
COLFOX, WA



~~3.~~ FERGUSON HOUSE
3. COLFOX, WA



4.
~~3~~. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLFAX, WA



5. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



6. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



7. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



8. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



4. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



10. FERGUSON HOUSE
Colfax, WA



11. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



12. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



B. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTOX, WA



M. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



15. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLDEX, WA



14. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLFAX, WA



17. FRAUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



19. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTON, WA



19. FERBESON
HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



20. FERGUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA



21. FERUSON HOUSE
COLTAX, WA

527 II SW
(THORNTON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

COLFAX NORTH QUADRANGLE
WASHINGTON—WHITMAN CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

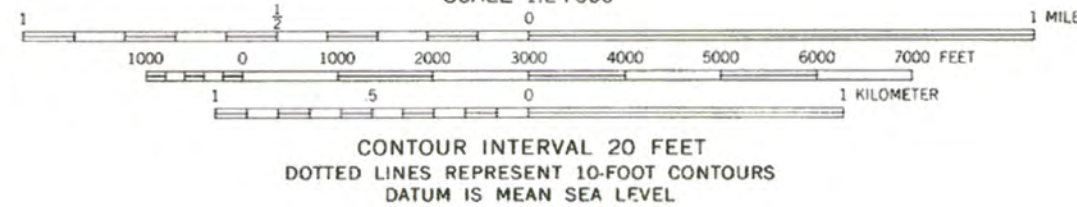
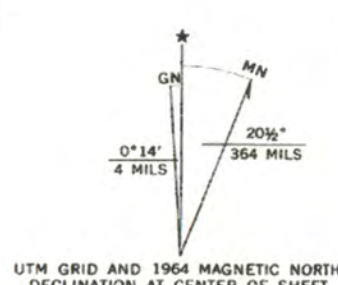
2578 I SW
(GARFIELD)



FLORENCE FERGUSON HOUSE
504 N. MILL STREET
COLFAX, WA
99111
WHITMAN COUNTY, WA
EASTING 472337
NORTHING 5192466
ZONE 11
UTM COORDINATES



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1961. Field checked 1964.
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Washington coordinate system,
south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 11, shown in blue



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

COLFAX NORTH, WASH.
N4652.5—W11715/7.5

1964

AMS 2577 IV NE—SERIES V891

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS.
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



RECEIVED 2280

OCT 22 2010

STATE OF WASHINGTON
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 - Olympia, Washington 98501
(Mailing Address) PO Box 48343 - Olympia, Washington 98504-8343
(360) 586-3065 Fax Number (360) 586-3067

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

October 21, 2010

Paul Lusignan
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: **Washington State NR Nomination**

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed three new National Register Nomination forms for

- **Florence Ferguson House, Whitman County, WA**
- **University heights School, King County**
- **Tacoma Ice Company's Cold Storage Plant, Pierce County**

Should you have any questions regarding these nominations please contact me anytime at (360) 586-3076. I look forward to hearing your final determination on these properties.

Sincerely,

Michael Houser

State Architectural Historian, DAHP
360-586-3076
E-Mail: michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov



STATE OF WASHINGTON
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 - Olympia, Washington 98501
(Mailing Address) PO Box 48343 - Olympia, Washington 98504-8343
(360) 586-3065 Fax Number (360) 586-3067

October 28, 2010

Paul Lusignan
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: Washington State NR Nomination

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed slightly revised documents for the National Register
Nomination form for

- **Ferguson House, Whitman County**

Please replace the appropriate pages which I sent a week or so ago. Sorry
for the confusion, but the property owner wanted to clarify some dates.

Should you have any questions regarding this nomination please contact me
anytime at (360) 586-3076.


Sincerely,

Michael Houser

State Architectural Historian, DAHP
360-586-3076
E-Mail: michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov



Paul Lusignan/WASO/NPS
03/25/2011 10:32 AM

To "Houser, Michael (DAHP)"
<Michael.Houser@DAHP.WA.GOV>
cc
bcc
Subject RE: Ferguson House 

Michael,

With the passage of so much time we had to categorize the original nomination as an official return. Any reconsideration will have to be processed as a resubmission, so the revised materials need to come in to us with a cover letter acknowledging that the materials constitute a resubmission. You do not need to send in a whole new nomination, just the revised pages (map, VBD, narrative, etc.), the missing digital image disk, and the signed cover letter, which should be from Allyson, if possible.

Paul R. Lusignan
Historian
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
(202) 354-2229
(202) 371-2229 fax\



ferguson.rtn.doc

"Houser, Michael (DAHP)" <Michael.Houser@DAHP.WA.GOV>



"Houser, Michael (DAHP)"
<Michael.Houser@DAHP.WA.GOV>

03/24/2011 08:33 PM

To <Paul_Lusignan@nps.gov>
cc
Subject RE: Ferguson House

Paul:

Checking in with you on the Ferguson House in Colfax. Finally received verification that the adjacent property is OK with NR listing of their part of the garage. I'm assuming you still have the file. Is it OK if I send you the various pages that will affect this change to include all of the garage... so can proceed with listing?

Michael Houser

State Architectural Historian
Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106
Olympia, WA 98501

(360) 586-3076

michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov



STATE OF WASHINGTON
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 - Olympia, Washington 98501
(Mailing Address) PO Box 48343 - Olympia, Washington 98504-8343
(360) 586-3065 Fax Number (360) 586-3067

March 31, 2011

Paul Lusignan
Keeper of the National Register
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: **Washington State NR Nomination**

Dear Paul:

Please find enclosed revised documentation for two National Register Nomination forms.

- **Fred & Elizabeth Young House - Yakima County, WA**
- **Florence Ferguson House - Whitman County, WA**

These sheets should replace existing pages in the nominations which to my understanding you still retain.

Should you have any questions regarding these nominations please contact me anytime at (360) 586-3076. I look forward to hearing your final determination on these properties.

Sincerely,

Michael Houser

State Architectural Historian, DAHP
360-586-3076
E-Mail: michael.houser@dahp.wa.gov