

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

1385

## 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 Lord-Heuston House

Other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 2902 North Cedar Street not for publication

city or town Tacoma vicinity

State Washington code WA county Pierce code 053 zip code 98407

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

  
Signature of certifying official/Title

11-26-07  
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

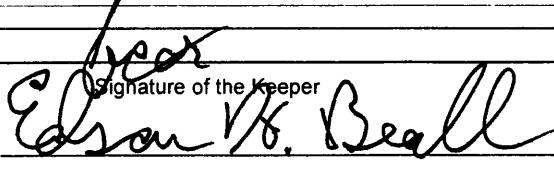
Date

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

1-30-08



**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 owed 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# \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

**Name of repository:**

**10. Geographical Data****Acreage of Property** Less Than One Acre**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	Zone	10	Easting	5	39	594	Northing	52	35	732	3	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	Zone		Easting				Northing				4	Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See continuation sheet.

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheet.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	Caroline T. Swope, M.S.H.P., Ph.D.				
organization			date	7/7/07	
street & number	2902 North Cedar Street	telephone	253-752-8848		
city or town	Tacoma	state	WA	zip code	98407

**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	Caroline T. Swope & David Waring		
street & number	2902 North Cedar Street	telephone	253-752-8848
city or town	Tacoma	state	WA
		zip code	98407

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# **National Register of Historic Places**

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### **Narrative Description**

#### **Exterior**

The 1906 Lord-Heuston House was built on the north-west corner of North 29th and North Cedar streets. While the original address for the structure was 3101 North 29th Street, the house was situated to take advantage of views from Cedar Street. This explains why the front porch is accessed from stairs on 29th, although the door actually faces Cedar. This is even further evidenced by the protruding oriel windows on the first and second floor which take advantage of territorial views to the north-east. The site is graded and slopes steeply towards the alley (north). A large fir tree anchors the south-west property corner. Beds along the south and east hold newly planted perennials and annuals. The back yard is currently in a state of transition with no plantings. At the north-west corner of the lot is a one car garage. The structure has a front facing gable roof, fixed multi-pane windows and lap siding. It is accessed via an alley at the rear of the property line. The non-contributing garage is not original to the home and dates to c 1930. In the 1960s, the one car garage was enlarged and at the time of nomination, it remains in very poor condition.

The house is two-stories, with a hipped roof. Narrow horizontal clapboard is the only siding material, which is unusual in a neighborhood where many of the older homes have at least some cedar shake siding. A narrow stringcourse defines the lower section of the first level, right about the foundation line, and the upper section of the second floor, directly above the upper window jambs. Corners are accentuated with elongated pilasters, capped by a simple entablature.

The south elevation is a picture of bilateral symmetry, with two large one-over-one, double-hung windows on the main floor, one located in each corner. A bank of three clustered single glazed windows is situated in the center of the elevation, indicating the staircase landing. Newer glass and changes in window framing as seen from the interior suggest that these windows, while likely identical in size, are not the original units. It is possible that the vintage windows were leaded or even a simple stained glass. The second floor has two additional one-over-one, double hung windows, located towards the façade's corners. The broad eaves are boxed. A single low dormer, with paired one-over-one, single hung windows, is centered on the roof. A one-story porch, accessed from the south, but located on the east side of the house, is recessed to avoid breaking the symmetry.

The east façade of the house was designed to capitalize on water views, and is less formal in its massing. The far south end has a large, fixed single paned window, followed by a two panel front door, the upper panel holding a pane of beveled glass. Next is a massive cottage style

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window, with the upper sash designed to be operational. This is followed by an oriel, composed of two one-over-one, double-hung windows flanking a larger one-over-one, double-hung window. A large wrap-around porch starts between the fixed single paned window and the front door, and runs to the far north end of the house, where it turns to continue along the back of the structure. The front of the porch is supported by five evenly spaced Tuscan columns, each one resting on a coffered pier. The second floor of the house displays a different window fenestration. The far south end is anchored by a one-over-one, double-hung window, followed by a wider version of the same window. A few feet over a small diamond-patterned window (more Craftsman in style) belies the presence of a closet. To the north a sizable oriel (an extension of the main floor oriel) anchors the end of the façade. These windows different from those on the main floor, and are cottage style, with diamond-patterned wood muntins on the upper sashes. A single centered dormer, with two one-over-one single-hung windows, protrudes from the hipped roof.

The north elevation has the continuation of the wrap-around porch, which stops shy of the west corner of the house. A large staircase is located on the west end. This staircase appears to have been widened recently, as evidenced in a ghost pattern showing a missing column and section of the porch railing. The staircase does not currently have a railing. The abbreviated ending of the porch allows space for a basement door entry into the foundation of the house. The door has an awning added during the 1960s. The main level of the house has three clustered one-over-one, double-hung windows towards the east side, followed by a smaller one-over-one, double hung window, then by the kitchen door. The door has plexi-glass instead of regular glazing for the light, with three horizontal panels on the lower portion. The porch ends shortly after the door, and a final one-over-one, double-hung window anchors the west end of the elevation. The second floor has a large one-over-one, double-hung window followed by a glazed sleeping porch, then another large one-over-one, double-hung window.

The sleeping porch was added during the 1930s (as evidenced with signs of framing changes and paperwork found in the walls during the 2006 renovation). The porch eaves are boxed with a different style of wood than the rest of the house, interior floorboards run a different direction than the main flooring, and the plaster treatment in the walls is different as well. The 1912 Sandborn Fire Insurance Map does not show the sleeping porch at all, only the main first floor porch. The sleeping porch has a hipped roof, and joints into the back of the main roof. The lower portion is sided with narrow clapboard. The 2006 renovation added new windows, two double glazed fixed windows on both the east and west elevations, and four double glazed awning windows on the north side. The roof has two skylights on this side, one operational, and one fixed.

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The west elevation is the most haphazard of the house, and indicates the back elevation, and the presence of work/servant spaces. The main floor has a one-over-one, double-hung window towards the north. Near the center of the floor is a smaller one-over-one, double-hung window. The south portion of the elevation is anchored by a large single story bay, with windows on the two slanted portions. Each window is one-over one, double-hung. The second floor has a smaller one-over-one, double-hung window near the center, followed by a larger one-over-one, double-hung window closer to the south-west corner. The west roof elevation has three evenly spaced operational skylights.

### **Interior**

The front door opens to a petite foyer, delineated with two sets of half-wall screens. Each consists of a large rectangular pedestal where two columns rest, rising to the ceiling. One set defines the living room entry to the north, the second defines the staircase landing to the south and a small nook space on the south-east corner. After World War II, one column from each screen was removed in an attempt to "modernize" and streamline the house. The nook to the south has a large one-over-one double-hung window on the south wall, and a fixed single window on the east wall. The living room occupies much of the space, with a massive one-over-one, cottage styled, single hung window on the east elevation, followed by an oriel with three one-over-one, double-hung windows. The north elevation has a cluster of three flanked one-over-one, double-hung windows. The west side of the room has a double swing door that accesses the kitchen. To the south is the remains of the fireplace, which no longer has its original mantle, although the original hearth tiles remain. The mantle likely was damaged during a mid-20th century earthquake, which destroyed many chimneys in the neighborhood, including the one at this residence. The firebox needs to be rebuilt, and the flue needs to be relined before the chimney can be used again. A Blair designed Colonial Revival house at 3221 N. 29th Street still has its original mantelpiece, and is currently serving as the model for the rebuilding of this one.

The basement is accessed by a door on the south wall, close to a doorway on the west wall that enters the dining room. The dining room has fir wainscoting that rises nearly 5'6" and is capped with a plate rail. The south wall has a large one-over-one, double-hung window. The west wall has a protruding bay, with windows on the two slanted portions. The protruding bay on the west elevation was originally cantilevered, but did not have enough structural support. The floor dripped several inches over less than 3 feet, and necessitated a foundation addition during the 2006 remodel. A pocket door (which replaces an earlier double-swinging door) provides access to the kitchen.

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The kitchen is the most altered space in the house. It originally housed a petite pantry, the main kitchen, a laundry chute, access to the basement, and a servant's staircase (Five doors and four windows in a space that was about 10x20'). Typical of the period, only servants were expected to use the space, and machinery was limited. The space underwent a significant remodel during the 1950s when plumbing stacks were moved and a "new" kitchen was installed, complete with metal cabinets. The current kitchen was designed to blend with the rest of the house, while providing modern amenities (dishwasher, refrigerator, main floor powder room, etc.) The flooring is a vintage type linoleum (first manufactured in the 1850s), deep brown in color. Cabinets are inset with exposed hinges and exterior locking hardware, all typical of early 20th century kitchens. Early 20th century kitchens in this region would have used wood countertops, but soapstone counters were installed during the remodel, a more period appropriate choice than the typical granite found in most modern kitchen. Handmade subway tiles were used for the backsplash. No recessed can lighted was used, and period reproduction lights were custom-made for the space. The north elevation has a one-over-one, double-hung window, followed by the back door, then a second, larger, one-over-one, double-hung window. The west elevation has a one-over-one, double-hung window towards the north elevation, (partially rebuilt, after the 1950s remodel sawed the front of the window trim off to accommodate a sink) and a smaller one-over-one, double-hung window towards the south, originally lighting the pantry. The window to the west of the back door has signs of previous occupants, with the word "Alf" scratched into the lower pane. It appears to be an unfinished graffiti of "Alfred," eldest son of May N. Heuston. May's youngest son, Emory, left his initials (ENH) in several locations throughout the house, including under the porch floor and on the chimney stack in the attic.

The second floor of the house originally had four bedrooms and one bathroom. The servant's/utility space was altered some in the 2006 renovation. The original servant's bedroom/nursery (which was accessible from the main hall and the master bedroom) has been turned into a master bath and laundry area. The bedroom occupying the south-east corner has a large cupboard in the south-west corner, and an unusual niche occupying the south-east corner, mirroring the space off the foyer below. The light fixtures in this room and the master bedroom were found in the house, and were re-wired and repaired in the 2006 renovation. The house originally had dual gas-electric fixtures, the gas pipes were found during the renovation. None of the 1906 fixtures remain in the house, and were likely removed when the house converted completely to electricity during the 1920s.

The master bedroom occupies the north-east corner, and has a small closet on the southern end of the east wall, and a window seat built into the oriel on the northern end. The closet is lit by a small bottom hinged window, composed of diamond-patterned window muntins more typical of Craftsman styled homes. The window seat has three one-over-one, double-hung windows.

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Each window's upper sash has the diamond-patterned window muntins as well. The large three bulb light fixture in the room is similar to that found in the previous bedroom, and was original to the house. A door on the north wall accesses the sleeping porch. A door on the west wall accesses the attic level (currently unfinished) and a master bath. The master bathroom has a one-over-one, double-hung window on the north side.

The original bathroom in the house was enlarged to provide laundry facilities during the 2006 remodel. The floor is a vintage-type linoleum, which replaces what was left of the original 100 year old linoleum. The sink is a new china cast console, similar in style to those made at the turn of the 19th century. The tub is the original cast iron fixture, refinished with reproduction hardware during the 2006 remodel. A door on the northwest wall (towards the east) provides access to the laundry room. The final bedroom is located on the south-west corner, and has a small closet on the north wall. The light fixture in this room is not original to the house, but is a circa 1900-1010 antique gravity bowl light, with a hand painted shade.

The interior of the Lord-Heuston Residence is in good condition, with most of its original woodwork and floors intact. All of the original double-hung windows remain, most have their original glazing with ripples and seeding. All are operational. Original window hardware had decades of old paint removed during the 2006 renovation. The original main floor heat registers are intact, with their vintage japanned finish. All interior doors are five-panel, and sport black or white ceramic knobs with japanned finish door plates and hinges. Original non-functioning push button switches were replaced with new reproduction pushbuttons, faced with black-finished brass plates. New outlets were cut into the baseboard, as is appropriate with period houses. Matte black outlets were installed, with black-finished brass plate covers. In areas where woodwork was missing, identical period woodwork from a 1905 house under demolition was salvaged and used. A few pieces (some dining room plate rail and crowns over the front door, nook, and stairwell windows) were custom milled for the renovation. The woodwork in the house was originally varnished fir, but had been painted multiple times during the last century. It remains painted now.

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### **Statement of Significance**

The Lord-Heuston House is historically significant under criterion B for its direct association to prominent Tacoma citizen, May Newton Heuston. A widower at the time of ownership of the nominated property, Heuston served on Tacoma's Pure Food Council. The Council was part of a local grass-roots woman's movement, which joined other national women's groups in lobbying for tighter food laws. Their combined forces culminated in the formation of the Federal Food and Drug Administration. The dwelling is also significant under criterion C as a well-preserved example of an early 20th century Colonial Revival home. The dwelling is given added significance as a representative property by Tacoma builder and sometimes architect, Sherman L. Blair. The period of significance for the property begins in 1906, the date of construction for the building, and ends in 1935, the year Heuston moved away from the home.

The 1906 Lord-Heuston House is a hipped roof variation of the Colonial Revival style. This style, where architectural massing and details are copies from period Colonial examples, originated with the Philadelphia Centennial International Exposition of 1876. The style has remained popular ever since, not only on the east coast, where its roots are firmly entrenched, but on the west coast as well. The 1913 Seattle publication, *Homes and Gardens of the Pacific Coast*, noted the public acceptance of the style, and commented that, "There is not a type of architecture which the American People more admire and none that is more appropriate for them to use than the "Colonial."

While people from many countries lived in colonial America, the term "Colonial Revival" in architecture generally refers to houses based on Early English and Dutch designs. The symmetrical Georgian and Federal style buildings had a number of architectural features that found favor, including extensive paneling of entryways and primary living spaces, center hallways, four-square plans, Palladian windows, Classical columns, and shuttered multi-lighted windows. While the dominant architectural style at the time of the Philadelphia exhibition was Victorian, it did not take long for designers to add Palladian windows and Classical columns to rambling irregularly massed Victorian structures.

Early examples of the Colonial Revival style were rarely historically accurate copies. Instead they were father loose interpretations of the style. Colonial Revival details are often used to ornament four-square houses, creating a blended typology between the two. While heavily ornamented high-style versions are easily identified, less ornamented versions are usually only recognized through fairly symmetrical massing and columned porch supports. About one-third of the Colonial Revival homes built before 1915 represent the hipped roof, full-width porch subtype, a variation of the four-square style. The Lord-Heuston House is such an example. Its simple exterior treatment is similar to other Tacoma homes designed and built by Sherman L. Blair.

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### **Sherman L. Blair**

Born in 1858 in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania little is known about the life of Sherman L. Blair before he arrived in Tacoma between 1902 and 1903. At the age of 48, in 1906 Blair began a construction business in the city and worked as both a designer and a contractor until his unexpected death in 1918, at age 60.

Blair specialized in building upper-middle class houses built in Tacoma's North End. He was the contractor for several elaborate residences including designs by prominent architect George W. Bullard. Blair also is known to have designed several dwellings by himself. Houses designed by Blair are usually either American 4-Square or Craftsman, with the bulk of his work produced between 1906 and 1908 (see attached list). The Lord –Heuston House is the only known example of a Colonial Revival designed by Blair. It is clear that the base of the form is American 4-Square, and that the double oriels and wrap-around porch were designed to capitalize on the property's view.

Perhaps the most prominent of Blair's projects was the Tacoma's First United Methodist Church, where Blair served as construction superintendent. The church, now demolished, was designed by Uniontown, Pennsylvania architect J. C. Fulton. Dedicated in 1916, it was considered Tacoma's best example of Ecclesiastical Gothic Revival and was a tribute to Blair's carpentry skills.

Contemporary newspaper reports link the nominated house with Blair, and material evidence confirms the connection as well. Several pieces of millwork in the house have Blair's name written on the back. Additional millwork is identified with the initials or full name of the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company, which formed on June 4, 1888. The St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company acquired more than 80,000 acres of Pierce County timber, from Northern Pacific Railroad's land grant, and provided most of the building materials for Tacoma's booming construction industry.

### **Dr. George T. Lord**

The real estate section of the September 30, 1906 Tacoma Daily Ledger has a photo of the Lord-Heuston residence prominently placed on the page. The caption reads: "Pretty North End House." The home is described as having a "beautiful view of the bay ... (with) eight rooms." The cost of the house was reported as \$4,000. The house was later featured in the September 21, 1907 Tacoma Daily News, which described the house as having seven rooms and costing \$5,000. Both newspapers list Dr. George T. Lord as the owner.

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Dr. Lord was a dentist at the New York Dental Company, located at 940 1/2 Pacific Avenue. He resided in the house only for a few years, and by 1910 he had moved residences to 1211 North 4th. It was during this time that he married a "Miss Nellie S."

Dr. Lord sold the house to widower May Newman Heuston in 1910. According to a 1979 interview with May Heuston's sister, Mrs. Grau, Dr. Lord planned on traveling to Guatemala as a missionary, and sold the house to finance his trip. For some reason he never did go on the trip, and later built a house on J street, within walking distance of his dentist office.

### **The Heuston Family**

May Newman Heuston and her two sons, Alfred and Emory, occupied the residence from 1910 until 1935. May Heuston was the widow of prominent Tacoma attorney Benjamin Franklin Heuston.

May was a native of Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, and daughter of Wisconsin State Supreme Court Judge A. W. Newman. She was born in Galesville (Trempealeau County) circa 1862-63. She attended the University of Wisconsin. While her obituary notice lists her as a member of the Delta Gamma sorority, she is not listed as one of their members in any of the University of Wisconsin yearbooks. She was however, a member of Castalia, a ladies' literary society (although her name was misspelled as Mary Newman, one of several misspellings that occurred during her lifetime.) May graduated from the University in 1886, with a degree in General Science, undoubtedly an unusual undertaking for a lady of her era.

May married Benjamin Franklin Heuston, Junior (commonly listed as B. F. Heuston, or Frank Heuston) in 1893, and moved to Tacoma to join her new husband. Mr. Heuston was also a native of Galesville, Wisconsin, and was born circa 1859-60. How Ms. Heuston passed her time between graduating in 1886 and marriage in 1893 remains undetermined.

Mr. Heuston was admitted to the bar in Minnesota. While his obituary lists him as a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, the university's registrar records show him attending for only three years, from 1881 until 1883.<sup>1</sup> Author Herbert Hunt's "Tacoma: Its History and Its Builders" merely mentions that he took a course at the University of Wisconsin, and then studied law in the

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<sup>1</sup> Early enrollment and degree information from the University of Wisconsin is difficult to verify. The University Registrar has records that show May attending from 1882 until 1886. They do not have documentation that shows majors or actual graduation dates for this period. The oldest commencement book in their collection is from 1894.

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offices of Cameron, Losey, & Bunn, a La Crosse, Wisconsin law firm. Heuston then studied law with Judge Thomas Wilson of Wilson & Bowers, in Winona, Minnesota. Mr. Heuston moved to Tacoma in 1890 and was listed in the 1892 Tacoma Blue Book, a locally published directory of prominent citizens, as renting a room at 51 Gross Block. (Mr. and Mrs. Heuston were later listed in both the 1899 and the 1906-06 directories.) In the 1889-1891 Tacoma directory, Heuston is listed as partnering with Albert H. Heilig. Their business, Heilig & Heuston was located at 417 Fidelity Trust Building. Shortly there after Heuston formed a law partnership with R. B. Lehman, and a year later partnered with T. W. Hammond. He was to continue with this partnership for most of his life. Heuston specialized in real estate law and title examination. One of his most notable cases was the suit of Gove vs. the City of Tacoma, where more than \$50,000 was recovered on tax certificate investments. He was also a successful author, and in 1892 published "The Rice Mills of Port Mystery," which addressed the advantages of free trade. In 1898 he published "The Law of the State of Washington Relating to Real Estate Transfers." During his career, Heuston accumulated one of the largest law libraries in Tacoma.

In addition to his legal profession, Heuston acquired a large number of real estate holdings, city lots, tidelands, timber and farmlands. He was invested in the Cedar River Logging Company with his nephews. He had political aspirations as well, and was twice a candidate for the Democratic Party, the first time as a state representative for Congress, the second as a justice of the state supreme court. He was active in the 1902 Democratic Rally at the Lyceum Theatre, and served as one of the speakers. He was also a member of the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce, the Pierce County Bar Association, and the First Congressional Church.

From late 1906 until mid 1907 Heuston suffered from an unidentified illness that required his early retirement. He briefly returned east, hoping that a change of climate might improve his health, but to no avail. He died at his Tacoma residence, 720 North I Street, early Monday, May 6, 1907. He was 47 years old. Heuston was prominent enough that his death was listed on page 3 of the newspaper, with other important local news, boldly headlined, and not on the usual obituary page. His funeral was held at the First Congressional church. Most of the Pierce County Bar Association was in attendance. Reverend E. T. Ford officiated his burial at the Tacoma Cemetery (4801 South Tacoma Way).

May was now a widow, caring for two young sons, Alfred N. (b. 1897) was age 10, and Emory M. (b. 1902) was age 5. May undoubtedly appreciated the support offered by several members of Benjamin's family, who lived in the area. His sister, Elizabeth Heuston, lived in Tacoma, as did his brother, George Heuston, a local artist. A nephew, Myron T. Heuston, lived in Tacoma, while to other nephews, Frank Z. and Benjamin B. Heuston lived in South Bend.

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Shortly after Benjamin's death, May moved the family to a house at 1012 North 9th Street, perhaps hoping that a change in accommodations would lift her spirit. This move also put her closer to other Heuston family members, nephews Benjamin B. and Myron, Catherine (her mother-in-law) and Miss Elizabeth Heuston (sister-in-law), who all resided at 911 North 11th Street. For some reason, the new house was not deemed suitable, and between 1909 and 1910 the family purchased the nominatd property.<sup>2</sup> This was the house where the children grew up in, and where May spent most of her life. May's mother, Celia E. Newman, moved to Tacoma to help care for her grandchildren. An interview with May's sister, Celia Newman Grau (who also moved to Tacoma, and married) tells of their mother living with May and the boys, and quickly deciding that the children were too rambunctious, fighting all the time. Mrs. Newman decided to build her own residence, and purchased three lots across 29th street, leaving two vacant, and building her own home at 3114 North 29th Street.

May's two sons attended Stadium High School. Alfred served on the Commencement Announcement Committee, and graduated in 1915. Emory was considered a "live wire" by many of his classmates, his interest in theatre led to his participation in several school theatrical productions, including The Mikado. He also served as business manager for the class play. Excess energy was utilized as a yell leader for the cheering squad. Emory graduated in 1920. Information regarding his path after graduation is scarce, May's funeral notice of 1940 listed Emory as living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Alfred's funeral notice of 1955 listed Emory as residing in Cleveland, Ohio.

Alfred followed in his father's career path and attended Harvard Law School after graduating from the University of Wisconsin. After finishing law school he worked for two years in the office of the attorney general of the United States. He later entered the New York Law firm of White and Case, the second largest law firm in the United States at that time. He was active in the New York Bar Association and chaired the National Bar Association committee on corporation, banking, and business law. Alfred passed away in late April of 1955, while in Rome, Italy. He was survived by his wife Caryl Parkinson Heuston and their daughter Helen. At the time of his death Alfred had not lived in Tacoma for more than forty years. However, the Heuston family was still well known, and his obituary was prominently listed in the Tacoma News Tribune, and

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<sup>2</sup> The original address for the house was 3101 North 29th Street. The lot was platted on 29th, and the front door is accessed from a staircase on 29th. However, the house was clearly sited to take advantage of territorial views, with the main rooms facing Cedar Street, and the front porch wrapping around the Cedar Street elevation. Zane Ferry, owner of the property from 2002-2005 successfully petitioned the city to change the address of the house from 3101 North 29th Street to 2902 North Cedar Street.

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placed first on the page, with a larger write-up than other listings. It was also printed twice, appearing in the Monday and Tuesday editions.

Like many upper class society women of her time, May was a member of numerous woman's organizations, including the North End Shakespeare Club and the Tahoma Club. Her name repeatedly appears in Tacoma's Blue Book, both as a general listing, and under various clubs. The Tahoma Club, organized in 1897, was a ladies club devoted to the study of history, art and literature. The December 6, 1908 society page listing in the Tacoma Daily Ledger mentions May's talk on Colonial furniture and architecture at the monthly meeting. May's name appears on the Tahoma's membership roster for the years 1908-1909, 1912, 1913, 1914.<sup>3</sup> She was also an important member of the Tacoma Women's Club.

The Tacoma Women's Club was organization and chartered in 1904. For a time it was the largest Women's Club in the state. In 1909 May was appointed as The Tacoma Women's Club representative to the Pure Food Council.

In the fall of 1908 Mrs. O. G. Ellis, chairman of the Pure Food Committee for the State Federation of Women's Clubs, extended an invitation for the presidents of all local women's clubs to start lobbying for pure food sanitation in Tacoma.<sup>4</sup> The Pure Food Council grew out of this group. It was composed of delegates from more than thirty-two women's organizations, representing about 1,700 women in Tacoma. Within a year the Council merged with the President's Council, and the resulting group was named the "Pure Food Committee." May's involvement with the council was unusual. Although she represented the Tahoma Club, she was not their president. Her background in science probably contributed to her interest in the committee's work. Her college degree likely gave her added clout as well. Tacoma's Pure Food Council was part of a national grass-roots movement that pressured local and federal governments into regulating the food and drug industries, culminating with the formation of the Food and Drug Administration (F.D.A.). Tacoma's Pure Food Committee was called the "feminine forerunner of a congressional investigating committee," and was one of the first in the nation to win passage of a municipal food sanitation.

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<sup>3</sup> Tacoma Blue Book publication was sporadic and local repositories do not have complete runs of surviving editions. Editions appeared in 1892, 1899, 1905-1906, 1912, 1913, and 1914. There are no club or membership rosters in the 1905-1906 Blue Book. May's last name was spelled Heuton in the society listing of the 1913 book.

<sup>4</sup> The Tacoma Public Library and the State Historical Society Archives do not have records from the Pure Food Council or the President's Club.

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PIERCE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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### The Pure Food Movement

The Pure Food Movement was heavily promoted by ladies' magazines during the early 20th century. During that time, the U.S. food and drug industries were unregulated in terms of consumer safety. Use of chemical preservatives and toxic coloring agents were unregulated. Society was adjusting from living in an agricultural based economy, with fresh food grown locally, to an industrial lifestyle, which meant food from distant locales was now being shipped to cities. Ice was the primary refrigeration method. Little was known about bacteria, milk was unpasteurized, and cows were not tested for tuberculosis. "Patent" medicines containing opium, morphine, heroin and cocaine were still sold unrestricted. Labels rarely listed ingredients. There were no laws that obligated a seller to supply goods that were sound, or matched their description. Butter was often watered down, as was milk, sometimes by 50 percent. Bread could have alum, Plaster of Paris, or chalk added to it. Oatmeal was bulked up with less expensive barley. Tea imported from China was cut with sand and dirt. Adulterated food was so common that housekeeping books often gave methods to test for the most common contaminants. In Tacoma spoiled clams were used for clam nectar at the turn of the century. To draw attention to the problem, the city food inspector, Miss Esther Allstrum, publicized her findings in the local newspaper. Mounting interest in more refined local and national food and drug legislation began to mount, and the federal government eventually responded to this pressure.

In 1902, Dr. Wiley, head of the U. S. Division of Chemistry (part of the Department of Agriculture) started research with human volunteers to determine the effects of food preservatives on digestion and health. He established a volunteer "poison squad" of young men who agreed to only eat foods treated with measured amounts of chemical preservatives, to determine if the ingredients were dangerous. The result was a media sensation. Chemicals fed to the men included borax, salicylic, sulphurous, and benzoic acids, and formaldehyde. The experiments lasted for five years.

They took their findings public, and Dr. Wiley was a popular speaker for women's clubs and civic organizations. Writers for Ladies Home Journal, Good Housekeeping, and Collier's Weekly joined the publicity campaign, and aroused public attention with cartoons, articles and editorials. The experiment was so well known that even minstrel shows had songs about the squad, officially designated as the "Hygienic Table."

*"O, they may get over it but they'll never look the same.  
That kind of bill of fare would drive most men insane.  
Next week he'll give them mothballs, a la Newburgh or else plain;  
Oh, they may get over it but they'll never look the same"*

*Chorus from "Song of the Poison Squad," Lew Dockstader's Minstrels, October, 1903*

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Patent medicine firms and whiskey distillers strongly opposed Wiley's campaign for a Federal food and drug law. They argued that the Federal Government had no business policing what people ate, drank, or used as medicine. But agricultural organizations, many food packers, State food and drug officials, and health professionals supported the law. However, historians and Dr. Wiley himself agree that the strongest and most vocal support came from ladies clubs that garnered public support for the "pure food" bill. What is particularly impressive is that women did not yet have the right to vote in the United States. They did, however, use mass media and local speaking campaigns to make their views heard. In 1903 Wiley asked the president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs to get her membership to deluge the Senate with demands that action be taken on a pure food bill that had recently passed the House. The pressure from local woman's organizations was given additional credence when the publication of Upton Sinclair's novel, *The Jungle*, portrayed horrors in the nation's food supply. On June 30, 1906, two measures became federal law. One expanded Federal meat regulation for interstate distribution, and the second addressed federal standards for food and medicinal additives. The Bureau of Chemistry continued to enforce the laws until 1927 when it was reorganized as the Food, Drug and Insecticide Administration (renamed as the Food and Drug Administration in 1931). Wiley's activities were widely reported on, not just in national periodicals, but in local sources as well. The January 25, 1908 edition of the Tacoma Daily Ledger had a front page headline reading "Dr. Wiley Hits Preservatives." On February 22, an article entitled "Chicago Dealers Sell Adulterated Milk." On March 14 a column read "Campaign for Pure Food Urged: Dr. Wiley Advises Mothers to Take Action." Washington State also became increasingly concerned with the movement. The State Chemist, Elton Fulmer, wrote two lengthy essays on food adulteration, both of which were given ample space in the Tacoma Daily Ledger, the first entitled "Forms of Adulteration of Foods Held Illegal" (November 8, 1908) and the second "Food Adulterations In Violation of Law" (December 9, 1908).

Locally, the Tacoma ladies on Pure Food Committee promoted the passage of a citywide pure food ordinance. The 1905 City of Tacoma Ordinance was limited to less than two paragraphs. Section 12 of the ordinance stated:

*"It shall be the duty of said Commissioner of Health to inspect, when called upon to do so by any person, or when it is his or the opinion of the Board of Health, or any of its members, it seems necessary, all provisions, meat, fish, fruit, vegetables, bread, flour, pork, whisky, beer, wine, milk, and water, and all liquors, and any and all things offered for sale in the City to be used as food or drink."*

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Section 13 of the ordinance gives the commissioner the right to destroy all articles identified as unfit. Section 49 of the city ordinance clarifies that no diseased animals could be sold as human food. However, enforcement of these ordinances was lax, and Tacoma ladies successfully lobbied for much more specific laws. Of particular concern was sanitation in markets and bakeries and other places where food was prepared and sold.

On January 6, 1909 the director of the Washington State Pure Food Committee, Mrs. O. G. Ellis, spoke to the annual session of the Ladies Aid Society of Tacoma's First Methodist Church. Extensive newspaper coverage of the event was given. Tacoma was particularly proud of developing pure food legislation. In an open letter to Tacoma residents, Mrs. O. G. Ellis noted that:

*"It is with pride that I have told them (other state pure food chapters) of the excellent state, pure food law, which follows the federal pure food law closely. What could add more to the fame of Tacoma, or better advertise our city of homes, than to answer these questions by sending the model marked sanitation ordinance in operation here? This would be a good reason for saying, "You'll like Tacoma." The Portland plan is known throughout the 800,000 membership, and the Tacoma Plan is an improvement upon it."*

The 1913 Tacoma General Ordinances (developed in 1909-1910, and passed in 1912) filled more than two pages. The lengthiest section of the ordinance (section 2) addresses how food stuffs were to be kept. There are also sections pertaining to screening of kitchens and markets, how decayed matter was to be handled, the requirement of a fresh water supply for food storage, ventilation, separation of bakery sleeping quarters from storage areas, curing and canning facilities, restaurant sanitation, boarding and killing of live fowl, garbage receptacles, inspection, and removal of contemned items.

Historically typical of women's organizations, it is difficult to determine an individual's role. Records are simply not available, and were likely not kept. However, May's unusual involvement with the Pure Food Council (she appears to have been the only member that was not a club president) indicates that her contribution was deliberately sought. May Heuston's unusual educational background helped her lead Tacoma to the forefront of the national Pure Food Movement. There may also be a connection between the Mayo Brothers (of the famed Minnesota Mayo Clinic) and the Tacoma Pure Food Movement. The house located on the north-east corner of Alder and 29th was originally home to the daughters of Willard Smith. Nora and her sister (name undetermined) were friends of the Mayo brothers, and Mrs. Heuston is reported to have frequently entertained the Mayo brothers when they were in town. Oral interviews with a number of elderly neighbors confirm that the Mayo brothers visited often, and seemed to be part of a Minnesota contingent that wintered in Tacoma for a number of years. Although this has

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been difficult to confirm with published sources, the Tacoma Daily Ledger gave a brief account of Dr. William Mayo's 1919 visit to Tacoma.

### May's Later Life and Additional Owners

It appears that a caregiver was brought into the house when May was in her 70s. The 1935 Polk Directory shows a Mrs. Mary A. Crosby residing in the house with May. By 1936 the house is listed as vacant. May was still well enough to travel, and attended the 50th reunion of her college class in 1936. Her picture, along with that of her classmates, is showcased in the 1936 University of Wisconsin Alumni Magazine. May moved to New York at this point, for a 1938 Alumni listing at the University of Wisconsin, of which May is the only member from the class of 1886 mentioned, reports that "Mrs. B. F. Hueston (sic) (May NEWMAN) is living with her son at 45 Deepdene rd., Forest Hills, Long Island." This was the residence of her eldest son, Alfred N. Heuston. May was to remain with Alfred and his family until her death, December 9th, 1940. Her body was cremated, and funeral services were held in New York. Although May had not lived in Tacoma for several years, her death was the first one listed on the December 10th obituary page of the Tacoma News Tribune. Her name was in bold letters, and more space was allotted to her life than any of the other obituaries listed.

May owned a considerable amount of property, and much of it was sold around the time of her death. For some reason though, the family retained the house at 2902 North Cedar Street, which was rented out from 1937 until 1949. There were a variety of tenants during this time. During the war years the house was subdivided into two or three apartments, with a dividing wall and door at the top of the main staircase. The sun porch was converted to a second kitchen. In 1950 the property was purchased by Paul and Agnes Day. During this time the dirt basement was concreted and some of the decorative woodwork was removed, to make the house look more "modern."<sup>5</sup> The mid-century kitchen reconfiguration and new metal cabinets were likely installed during this period. The next long term owners were Richard E. and Anita L. Londgren. Mr. Londgren was a department manager at Weyerhaeuser Company. The Londgren's maintained ownership of the property from 1966 until 2003.

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<sup>5</sup> The Day's son Kenny wrote his name and date (1950) in the concrete floor. An oral interview with him in the summer of 2006 confirmed the removal of the wooden foyer columns by his father.

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## **Continuation Sheet -**

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### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property is located at 29092 North Cedar Street, Tacoma, WA 98407. It is located on Township 21N, Range 03E in Section 30 of the Willamette Meridian in Pierce County, Washington. It is legally described as Tacoma Supplementary Map of Tacoma Supplementary Map, L12 B67. It is otherwise identified as Tax Parcel 8945002590.

### **Boundary Justification**

The nominated property encompasses the entire urban tax lot that is occupied by the Lord – Heuston House.



## **Lord – Heuston House: Tacoma, WA**

# Parcel Map for 8945002590

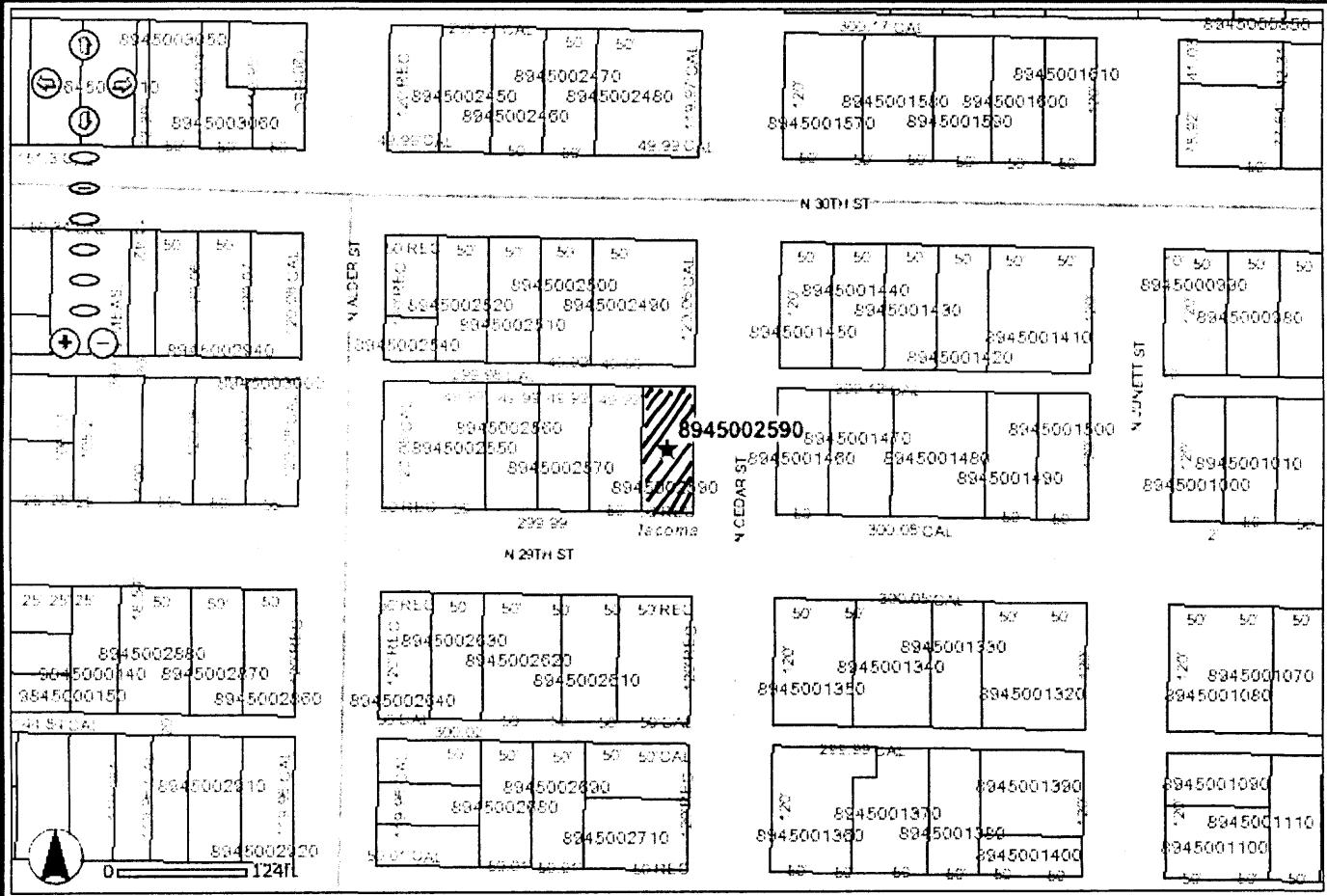
07/18/2007 10:48 AM

## Taxpayer Details

**Taxpayer Name:** WARING DAVID A & SWOPE CAROLINE T  
**Mailing Address:** 2902 N CEDAR ST  
 TACOMA WA 98407

## Property Details

**Parcel Number:** 8945002590  
**Site Address:** 2902 N CEDAR ST  
**Account Type:** Real Property  
**Category:** Land and Improvements  
**Use Code:** 1101-SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING



For additional mapping options, visit [Public GIS](#)

I acknowledge and agree to the prohibitions listed in RCW 42.17.260(9) against releasing and/or using lists of individuals for commercial purposes. Neither Pierce County nor the Assessor-Treasurer warrants the accuracy, reliability or timeliness of any information in this system, and shall not be held liable for losses caused by using this information. Portions of this information may not be current or accurate. Any person or entity who relies on any information obtained from this system, does so at their own risk.  
*All critical information should be independently verified.*

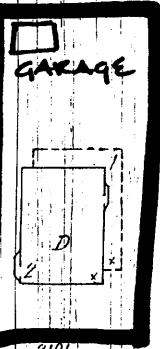
PIPE ITWS

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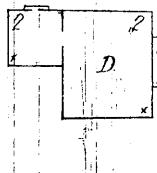
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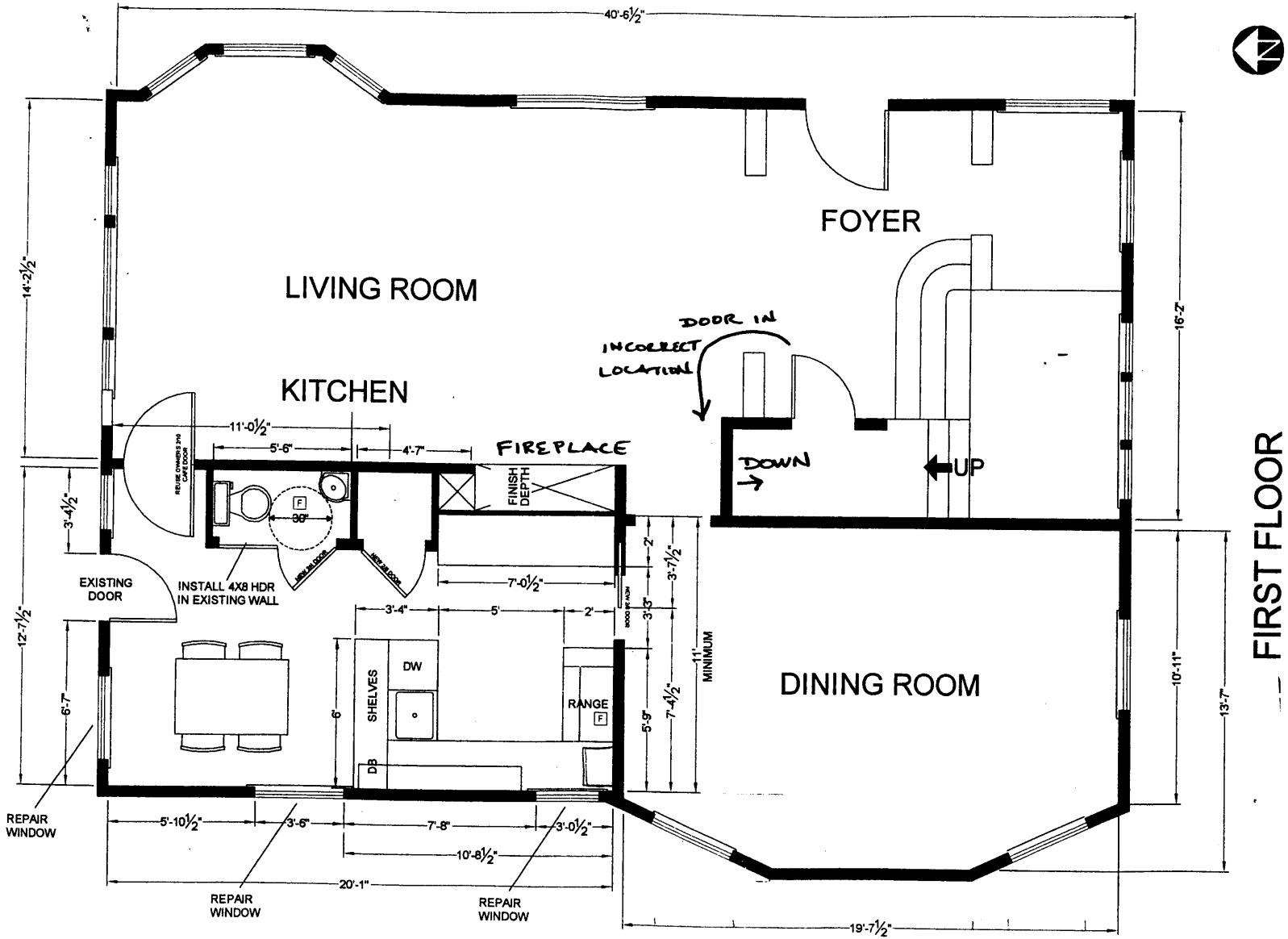


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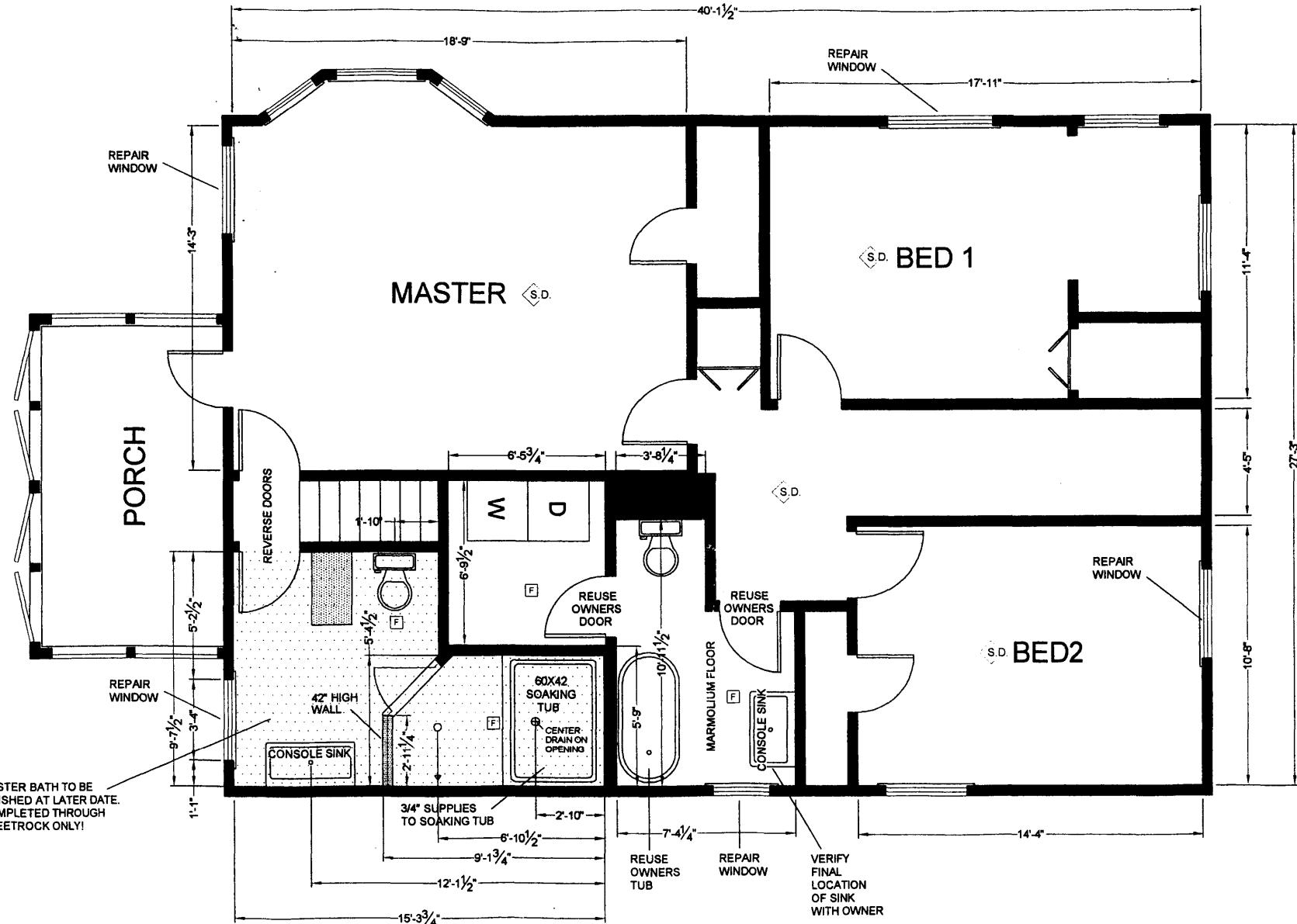
2902

JUNETT



Caroline Swope and David Waring  
2902 N Cedar St. Tacoma WA 98407  
ABLE REMODELING, INC. 759-5733

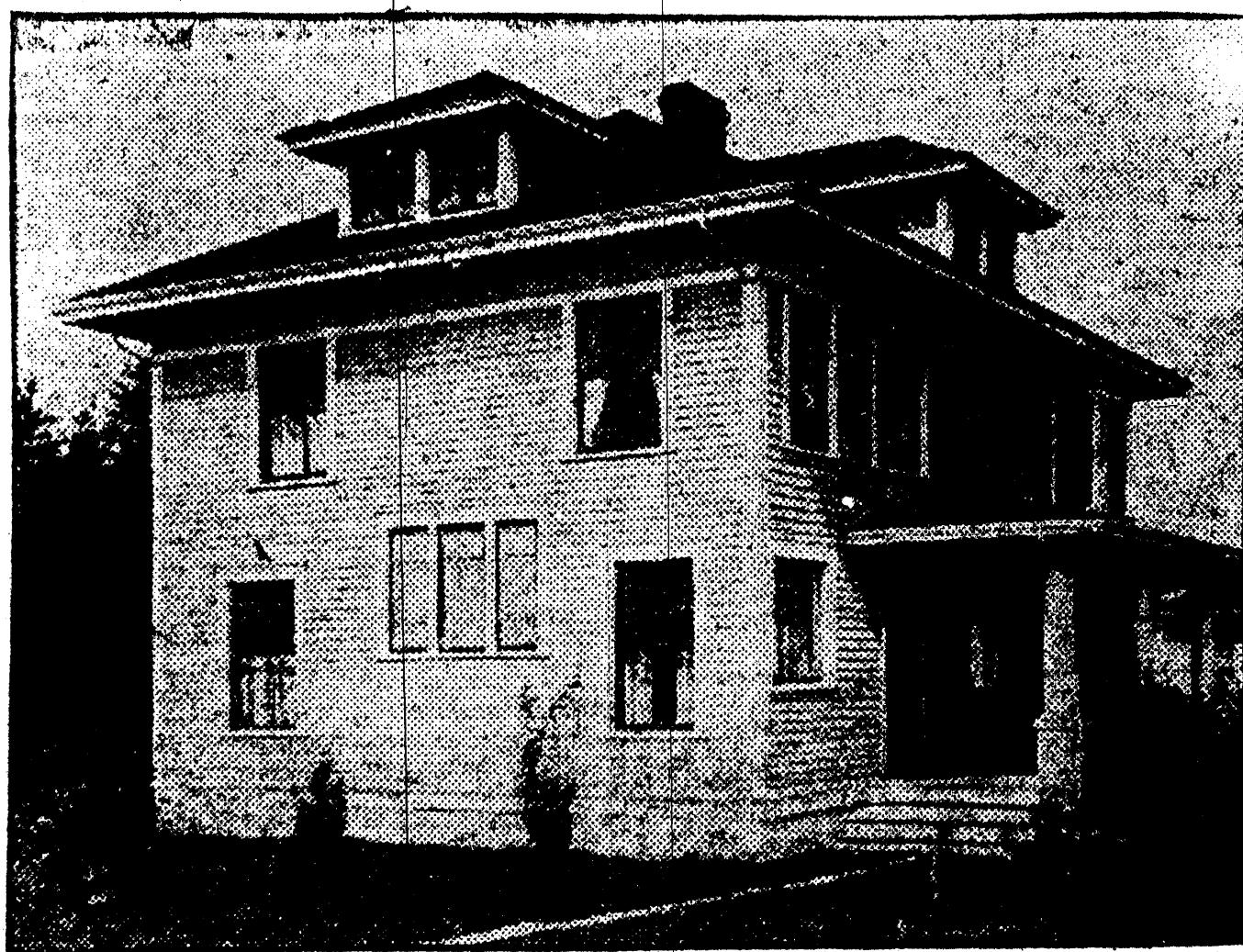
**MAIN FLOOR**  
**SCALE 1/4" = 1'**



we save, gives returns in 40 months  
of about \$1,000 for every dollar of the  
original investment.

The fact that the railroad company  
has paid the cash for this property and  
that other deals for right-of-way are  
being closed indicates to many that the

The Northern Pacific railway, as  
usual, has named low round-trip fares  
to North Yakima for the State fair.  
They are effective from September 22 to  
closing date of the fair. The depot of-  
fice or J. W. Hill, general agent, 925 Pa-  
cific avenue, Tacoma, will quote rates  
and inform you of the "Fair Special." \*



The seven-room dwelling of Dr. George T. Lord, 3101 North Twenty-ninth street. This place has all the modern conveniences. It cost \$5,000.

Union Pacific is preparing to begin construction work here. A great many investors and speculators who have been holding off until there should be some tangible evidence of railroad activity are getting into the market and considerable buying is looked for within the next few weeks.

#### Other Railroaders Here.

Parties said to represent the Chicago & Northwestern have been in the city

#### Logger Is Killed.

SEATTLE, Sept. 21.—Seth Cameron, a logger, was crushed to death by a falling tree at England & Cypher's camp near Redmond yesterday. His body was found pinned beneath the tree last night.

#### THE WORLD MOVES. SO DO WE. **Western Truck Company.**

C. R. Kellogg. S. J. Pollard.  
General Freightling, Furniture Vans,  
Safe Hoisting and Moving Heavy Ma-  
chinery a Specialty. 1332 Commerce  
street. Telephone Main 6049.

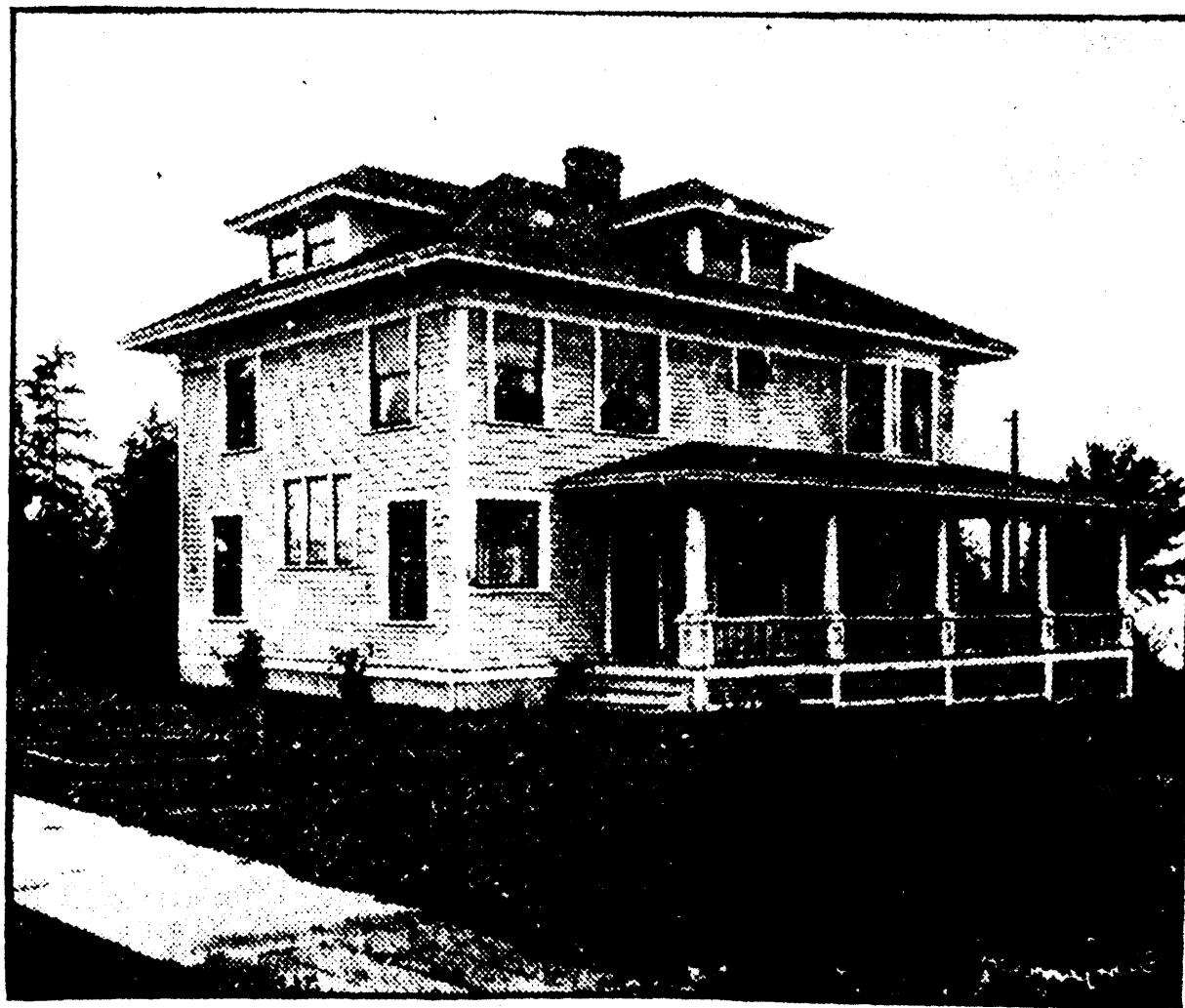
out of him.

"So when the clever, but somewhat

naïve, or impulsive,

"Neither Dillingham nor I even so much as looked in Kipling's direction.

## PRETTY NORTH END HOUSE.



Another pretty North End residence with a beautiful view of the bay is the home of Dr. G. T. Lord at 3191 North Twenty-ninth street. The house has eight rooms, and economy of space and convenience in arrangement are features. The rooms are large and beautifully finished in tile. On the first floor is a reception hall, living room, dining room, library and kitchen. Upstairs are four large bedrooms and a bath. An attic extends over the entire house. It has a concrete basement, including furnace, laundry and storerooms. The cost of the dwelling was about \$4,000. It was designed by S. L. Blair.

TACOMA DAILY LEDGER 9/30/1906

## Sherman L. Blair Project List

\* denotes *Blair as Designer and Builder*

<b>Property Name</b>	<b>Date &amp; Architectural Style</b>	<b>Address (all in Tacoma)</b>
Prof. William E. Blair Residence	1905 - 4-Square	721 North L. St.
H. G. Rowland Residence *	1906 - Tudor Revival	1220 N. 5th St.
Dr. George T. Lord Residence *	1906 - Colonial Revival	2902 N. Cedar St. (original address: 3101 N. 29th St.)
W.S. Reynolds Residence *	1906 - 4-Square with some Colonial Revival detailing	3221 N. 29th St.
William A. Stewart Residence *	1906 - 4-Square	417 N. M. St.
William T. Fletcher Residence	1906 - 4-Square	817 N. Sheridan Ave.
George Bullard Residence	1906 - 4-Square with Prairie influences	75 West Road
Rev James Clulow Residence	1906	2212 N. Proctor St.
Hart-Magann Tabernacle	1907	802 S. J Street
Dix H. Roland Residence	1907 - Craftsman	520 N. Cushman Ave.
Sherman L. Blair Residence	1907 - Craftsman	524 N. Cushman Ave.
Charles Holtcamp Residence	1907 - Craftsman	3313 N. Hudson St.
J.D. Benner Residence	1908	1017 N. L Street
James L. Garvin Residence	1908 - Craftsman	810 N. Cushman Ave.
J.D. Benner Residence	1908 - Craftsman	1017 N. L St.
Edward L. Hollingum Residence	1909 - Craftsman	515 N. I St.
T.E. Bryant Garage	1911	3015 N. 27 <sup>th</sup> Street
A. Cunningham Residence	1915 - Craftsman	516 N. Cushman Ave.
House	1915 - Craftsman	909 S. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street
J.A. Purrington Garage	1915	1005 N. L Street
First Methodist Episcopal Church	1916 – Gothic Revival	423 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
House	1917	718 S. I Street