



Residence of Roland J. Gamwell
16th St. N. W. Glass Sts.
Fairhaven Washington

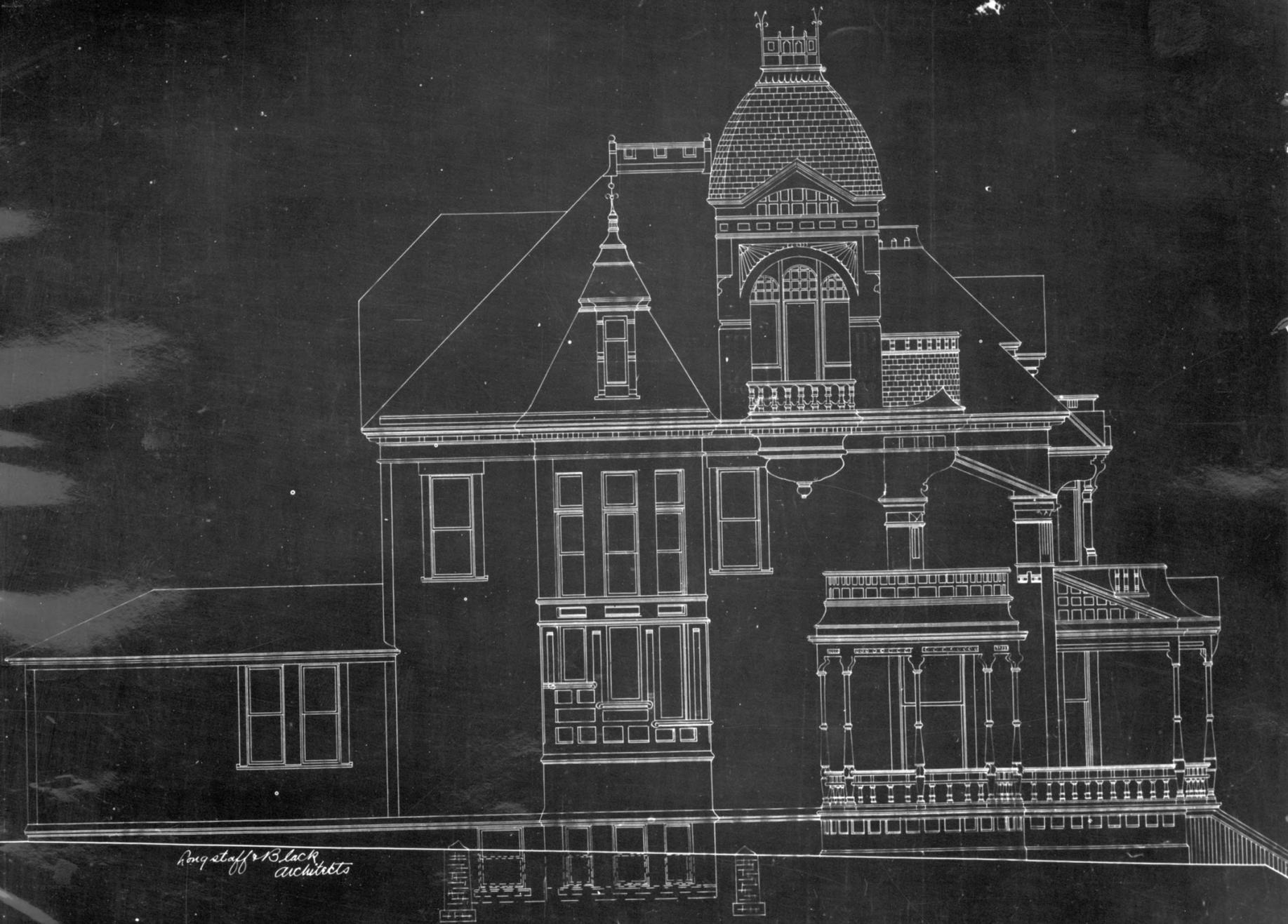
①

NPS Number 3-16-72

Title: Gamwell House

Loc. Whatcom, Wash.

Architectural drawings,
view of front entrance



Longstaff & Black
architects

North Side Elevation
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

3-16-72

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Whatcom	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 16 1972	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gamwell House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

1001 - 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Bellingham

STATE: Washington

CODE COUNTY: CODE

53

Whatcom

073

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Galen Biery

DATE OF PHOTO: 1969

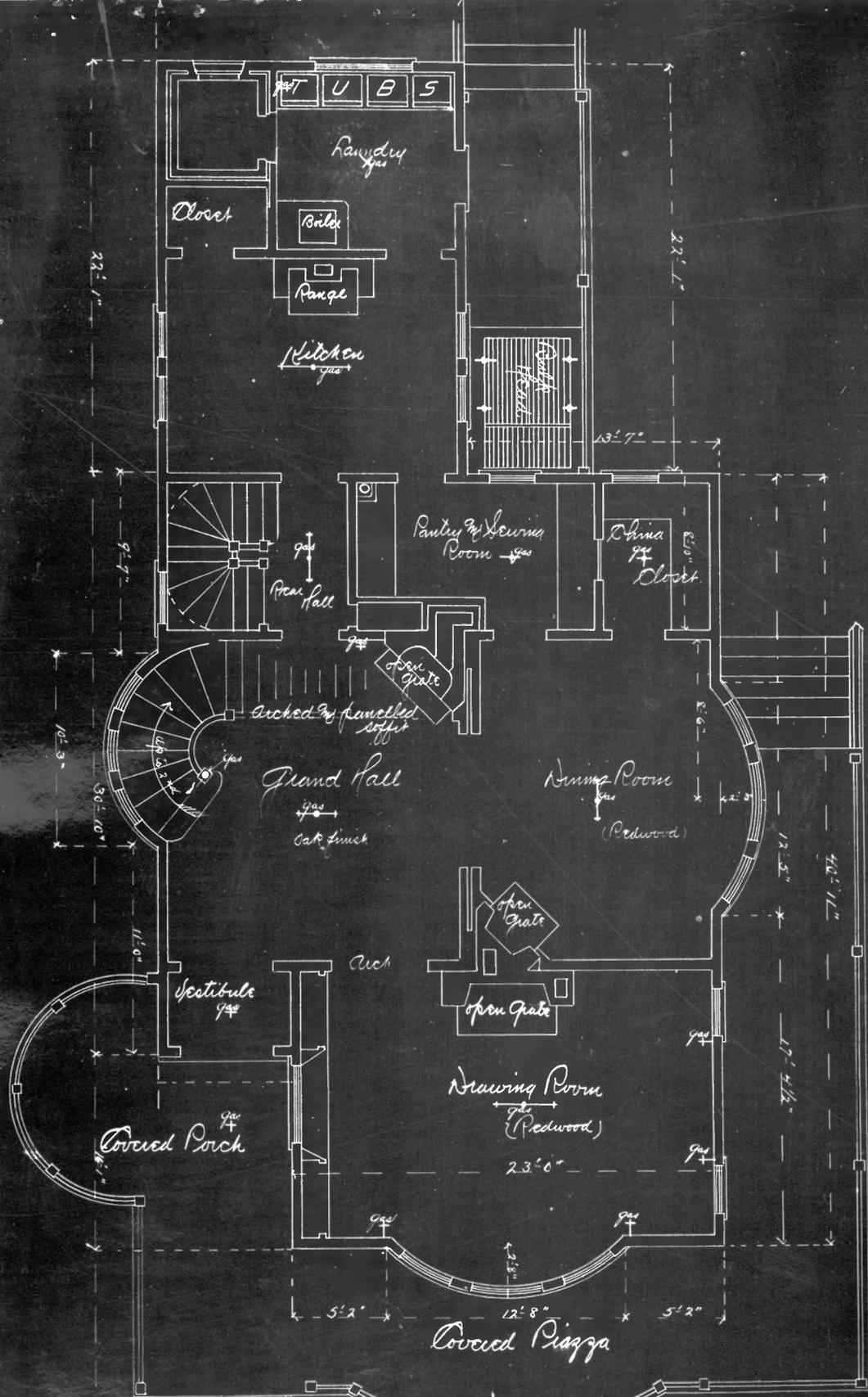
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Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Photo # 2 - Architectural drawing of Gamwell House, North side.



Ground Plan
 Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

(3)

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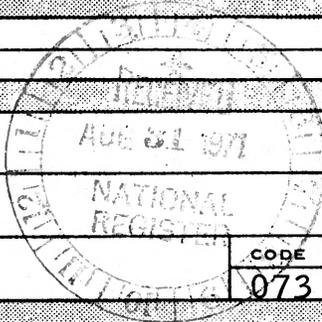
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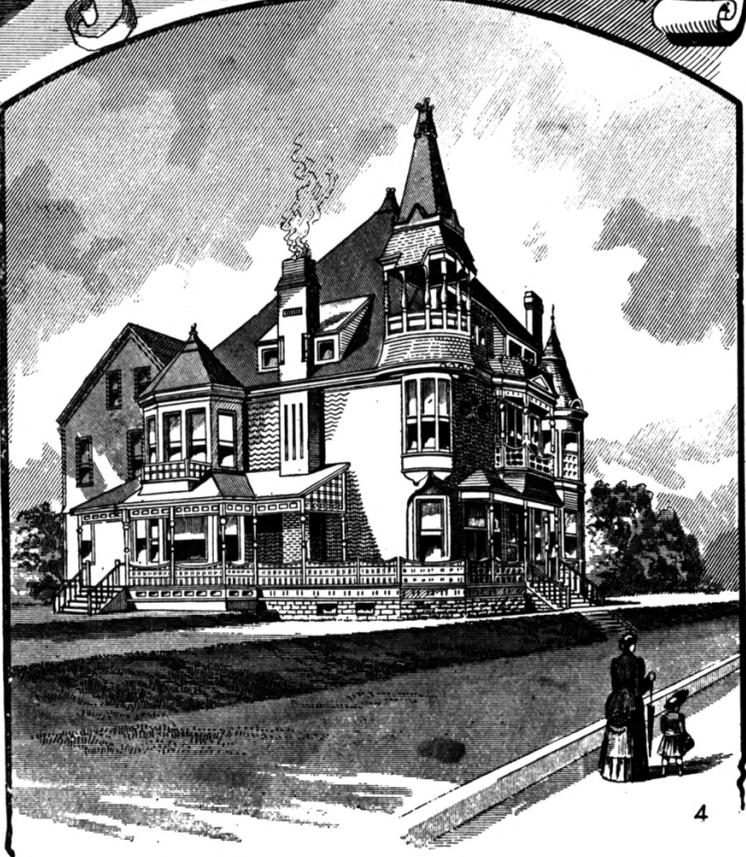
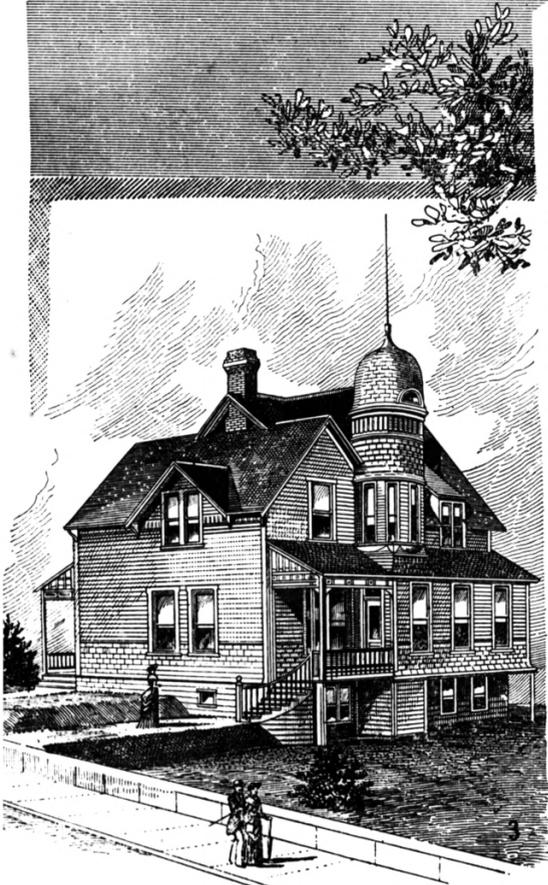
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Photo # 3- Architectural drawing of the Gamwell House, floor plan, main floor.



No. 1. ROLAND G. GAMWELL
 No. 2. COLONEL WILL. L. VISSCHER;
 No. 3. LONGSTAFF & BLACK;
 No. 4. A. H. CLARK.



FAIRHAVEN RESIDENCES.

(4)

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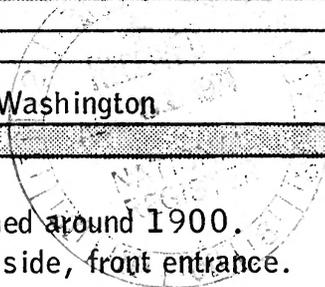
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Photo # 4 - copy from engravings in book published around 1900.
Upper left engraving shows the Gamwell House, west side, front entrance.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

BRICK BLOCKS "ARE TAKING PREFERENCE"



R. G. GAMWELL RESIDENCE ON SIXTEENTH STREET.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gamwell, at the corner of Douglas and Sixteenth streets is the type of the modern French Renaissance architecture. It is surrounded with a terraced lawn and three large and well arranged flower gardens in which may be found many of the choicest flowers, grown in all parts of the world, having at least a semi-tropical climate. Rare specimens from Japan, full foliage with equally rare plants from England, Germany, or the South of France, making a perfect and beautiful setting for the handsome structure.

The house was built nearly fourteen years ago, but maintains the careful detail of all the wood carvings and the decorations of the interior as though it had been built but a year ago. Artisans who plied their trade throughout the structure can return today and point with pride to the intricate carvings as well as the more substantial portions of the building, which was built at the time when the best of labor could be secured on the coast.

The building is three and four stories high with a large basement under all, and the many overhanging gables, the tower, and the many balconies are the characteristics of the style of architecture.

The paneled oak front vestibule leads to a hall where the wood carver carried out the most beautiful designs in solid oak. The skill of the most adept is recognized throughout. The staircase is wide and leads with a beautiful curve to the second floor, surmounted by a railing in which the carving follows the early style of the Corinthian designs. The staircase is supported in different places by protruding beams, all carved in figures, which likewise support the arched panels, forming a hood the width of the staircase above the beautifully tiled fireplace with its bevel plate mirror and handsome case, and the cosy corner seat.

The novel at the foot of the staircase is unique. It stands nearly four and a half feet high and each of the three faces is crowned by a human face telling a story of life. The central panel bears the face of a beautiful Grecian maiden, white on either side appears the face of a sutor. One is wreathed in smiles proclaiming that his love has been reciprocated, while the other's countenance is gloomy and foreboding, showing perfectly his chagrin at being an unsuccessful sutor.

The large art window showing in the center of the side facade in the above cut is very wide and high. It is in stained glass of blue, green and amber, with the blue predominating to correspond with the color scheme found. The taste of the host and hostess is here exemplified for they are great lovers of flowers.

The center section of the window contains a large flower pot with a

growing plant. The many branches of the plant cross the side and upper panels, showing the large leaves and blossoms of a tropical plant, the entire window being a perfect work of art. The window furnishes much light upon the stairs, although the shades are delicately tinted.

The furnishings of the room appear in oak, as does the highly polished floor, while the hangings are in a dull old blue. The coat of arms showing the ancestry of two of the oldest and most respected families of New England, of which Mr. and Mrs. Gamwell are descendants, hangs upon the wall in a prominent position.

Commodious Drawing Room.

The main drawing room is found in the front of the building with large doors opening from the hall. The room is in white and gold. A large bay window has an exposure upon the bay, and overlooks the city as well, making a pretty room for a living room, which is in general demand by the entire family.

A fireplace ten feet wide with the bevel plate mirrors in white panels, reaching to the ceiling, is the chief decoration in the room. All the woodwork on the mantle is delicately carved as well as that the hall, but the material is redwood. The mirrors are in many shapes and were made to order by an eastern firm. There are large electric lights pendant from the ceiling and projecting from the side walls, and all metal trimmings in this room are lacquered in light tones, while the hall is in dark to correspond with the dark oak.

Diningroom is in Buff.

The dining room is one of the largest rooms in the house and opens to the right of the hall from the main entrance. The color scheme is in buff and white. The wall is hung with a tapestry paper in which the buff is the prevailing tone, with a drop ceiling very low in dull white. On one side the matched molding between the two shades forms the plate rack for a great number of fancy plates, both heirlooms and modern pieces of pottery.

The fireplace in this room has large mirrors surrounded by wood work in a dark mahogany and dark brass trimmings for the andirons. A large bay window furnishes an ample amount of light to relieve the color in the furniture, which is Kentucky mahogany gradually growing darker in shading with old age. The room has a southern exposure, which makes a comfortable morning room, but it is somewhat shadowed by the large veranda running around the entire side of the building.

A very large china and wine closet opens from the dining room. It is paneled in highly polished redwood and the wine closet is spacious and well fitted. Choice china is found in every section of the closet, as well as

old heirlooms in pewter, well cared for by the younger generation.

The butler's pantry connects the dining room with the kitchen and it contains a large warming closet heated with steam, making it possible to serve an elaborate dinner with ease. The walls are paneled in cases with all the necessary articles for serving and the floor in it and the kitchen is as highly polished as in the drawing room.

Adjoining the kitchen in the rear is the laundry and a cold storage apartment for wines and meats. A wide stair leads from the kitchen to the second floor.

The second floor is given over to the bedrooms and a large sewing room, and a different finish is found in each room. The bath and linen closets are also on this floor. The guest chamber is in gold, white and pink, the wood being painted redwood. The furnishings are elaborate in birdseye maple. The fireplace and mantle is in white.

The main chamber is in tapestry pattern of blue with a design in violets. The finish is in mahogany as is all on the furnishings. The fireplace is really one of the most elaborate in the building, having large pier glass mirrors on either side, extending to the floor from the mantle, which is surmounted by a like mirror of ample proportions.

The room leads to the dressing room for the hostess, and it is well supplied with a marble lavatory and dressing table, large linen and dress closets. This room connects with the bath room, where the original polish is distinctly natural in the highly finished wainscoting in mahogany with the walls above appearing in a dull shade of green. The fittings are in marble and nickel.

Unique Sewing Room.

The sewing room or private sitting room is very unique for a means of lighting from the art window on the stairs is given by an opening in the side wall. There are wide French windows opening upon the balcony on the other side and a western exposure is given the room. It is in a dull pink.

The maid's room is just across the hall and also fine old cedar linen closets.

A second staircase leads to the third floor, which is given up to extra chambers and the apartments occupied by Miss Gamwell. The bed chamber opens upon the balcony from the first floor and also into the boudoir, which in turn opens with French windows upon a side balcony. The color scheme is in light in the sleeping apartment, while the boudoir is celled in native cedar. The view of the city and the bay from this room is magnificent. All in all, the house is one of the very best equipped in point of plumbing, finish and architecture in the entire city.

Values Amounting to Nearly \$300,000 Are Not Named in Permits, Because Registering Was Not Demanded Until Year Was Practically At An End.

PRACTICE IS COMPULSORY

New City Ordinance Will Make An Exact Showing of Statistics In the Coming Year.

The people who have been connected with the building codes of the year just closed, had the review qualifying in the extreme from the point of the percentage in the increase in all portions of the city and particularly in the downtown business section. But the exact figures which are the only criterion for the out-of-town buyer, who expects to locate here in the coming year, will not be available until the general building permit for the year is issued, that is, the end of the past three years. There is no record, however, which will not be made extended with in the new year, namely the discontinuation of the average builder of large buildings to register the permit for the new structure. Up to October 24 the new code is compulsory and the record is compulsory. By the new ordinance the provisions of which are in effect from the first of January, the last year of the new year will be complete, and the new year's estimate of the building permit will be correct in a real sense.

The exact copy of the register gives \$25 for a total and the sum is \$313,100. To this sum should be added the McClure store and apartment house on Elk street, the Exchange building at the corner of Oak and Third streets, the Telephone Exchange on Chestnut street, besides several residences in various sections of the city. The first three buildings will total at the least estimate \$230,000.

From the most careful statistics compiled one year to year, the following items have been prepared, showing the building permits for the past three years in the record from month to month. For the present year:

January, 26, valued at	\$17,200
February, 19, valued at	20,350
March, 30, valued at	62,700
April, 21, valued at	26,600
May, 18, valued at	30,950
June, 13, valued at	12,550
July, 19, valued at	24,450
August, 10, valued at	7,900
September, 16, valued at	25,945
October, 23, valued at	38,900
November, 20, valued at	27,735
December, 20, valued at	27,740

This closes with the last permit recorded December 22. The class of buildings is as diversified as the size of the city will permit. One new hotel on Third street, by Swanson and Pearson at the corner of Elk and Third streets; two storage additions to the Bellingham Bay Brewery, brick business blocks erected by Daw & Clark, F. J. Barlow and N. S. Dahlquist; he three story brick building erected by John E. Rice at 1312-14-16-18 Dock street; the Bellingham block on Elk street; the Perry roller skating rink and the Fairland rink now being constructed on Holly street; the Telephone Exchange building on Dock street; the Swedish Mission church on Third street; the parsonage for the United Presbyterian congregation and the remodelled sunblock at the corner of Elk and Holly.

301 Permits for 1905. For a marked contrast the year 1905 shows that the building permits

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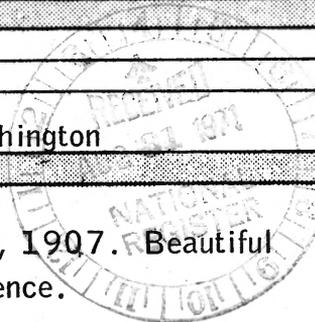
073**3. PHOTO REFERENCE**PHOTO CREDIT: Galen BieryDATE OF PHOTO: 1969

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington**4. IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Photo # 5 - copy from "Bellingham Herald", January, 1907. Beautiful Home Series, Number 10. Description of Gamwell Residence.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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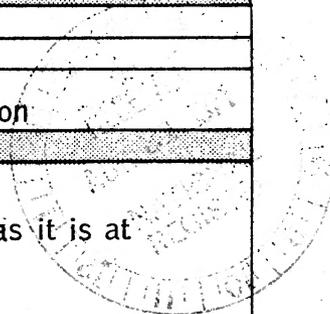
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Photo # 6 - west side, front entrance of Gamwell House, as it is at present.			

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Photo # 7 - Interior, main hall and staircase, showing some of the original furniture, lights, stairwell with "art glass" windows.

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