

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 89000853

Date Listed: 7/19/89

Hugh Fields House
Property Name

Linn
County

OR
State

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.

Beth Boland
Signature of the Keeper

7/19/89
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Item #8: Significance:

The period of significance is 1859--1886.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

853

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

JUN 12 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fields, Hugh, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 36176 Highway 228 N/A not for publication
city, town Brownsville x vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Linn code 043 zip code 97327

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
Signature of certifying official [Signature] Date May 31, 1989
Oregon 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.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Beth Boland 7/19/89
 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 _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Vacant: not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stonewalls weatherboard

roof asphalt: composition shingleother windows: glass

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

The Greek Revival style, one-and-a-half story farm house built about 1859 for Hugh Fields is in a temple form with tetrastyle facade. A one-third roof pitch (twenty seven degrees) accents the low form of the structure, it is thirty feet in width, thirty-nine feet from back to front, eleven feet high at the eaves. The wood structural system is a balloon frame. Of the extensive original wood work the interior finished surfaces are almost intact; while except for the eaves and columns, much of the exterior wood work has been obscured by aluminum siding. At the southeast corner of the house, two small wings were added about 1900. The house sits on its original site and is still in a rural and agricultural setting.

The house is located in a tributary valley east of the Willamette Valley within the foothills of the Cascade Range. It is two miles east of South Brownsville on Highway 228 which passes about 200 feet north of the house. A quarter of a mile further north flows the Calapooya River, a tributary of the Willamette River. This side valley is ten miles in length and three miles wide, north and south, at the Hugh Fields farm. Here the alluvial lowlands of the Calapooya River are relatively flat with a gentle slope downward toward the west.

From Highway 228, the driveway runs south parallel to the east side of the house passing through part of the orchard, which fills the acreage and surrounds the house on all sides, and terminates in a gravelled parking area. Fifty feet southeast of the Hugh Fields House is a one-story Japanese style modern home, constructed in 1983 on this property and occupied by the owners. The modern house is set off by plantings and the fence which borders the parking area.

Beneath modern siding the original, exterior finish surfaces of the Hugh Fields house are classical in composition and organized to emphasize the frontal temple form. Siding on the back wall of the portico is of matched six inch, horizontal, T & G boarding set flush, while the other three sides of the building are sheathed in horizontal weatherboarding exposed five inches. At the eaves is a two foot high entablature which forms the pediment on the front while at the rear, eave returns are extended five-and-a-half feet from each corner.

The two foot high entablature is sub-divided approximately into thirds as architrave, frieze and cornice expressed in moldings alternating flat with curvilinear shapes; the greater emphasis on elliptical, rather than the circular, indicates the Greek Revival style. But unusual entablature detail is found in the jigsaw work cut from a quarter inch thick board and placed along the upper edge of the frieze below a wide bed molding of cavetto, ovolo and other conventional shapes. The three inch high band cut like arcading has semi-circles of two inch diameter alternating with flattened pendants. No classical source for this is apparent.

There is some suggestion that this jigsaw band and part of the frieze may have been picked out with white paint in contrast to the deeper body color of the house. A similar jigsaw

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

detail was applied against classical moldings as a two inch wide band on three sides of the door and window openings on the front wall. This element might have been derived from a classical water plant motif.

No classical order provides a precedent for the characteristics of the four piers of the portico and in attenuation and sharp profiles the spirit seems to be more gothic than classical. These nine foot high, octagonal piers are one foot wide at the base. Vertical, parabolic shaped strips divide each facet of the shaft. A torus, cavetto and other moldings make up the nine inch high cap and flatter elements, the twelve inch high base. The corners of the building and of the indented west side porch are marked with nine inch wide antae. The two on the back wall of the portico carry the same cap and base detail as the pier in front of them. At all other antae both cap and base are reduced to a rectangular block projected slightly from the shaft.

At the rear of the building on the southeast corner are two, low one story gabled wings, perpendicular to each other. The front one, the kitchen, extends about ten feet from the east wall of the main house and is thirteen feet in width. On the main roof east of it is a concrete block chimney. The rear wing which contains two back rooms and a latticed woodshed is about fifteen feet wide and extends from the south wall of the house about twenty feet.

The eave detail of both wings and their structure suggest a construction date of about 1900. The much older materials in some of the walls were perhaps reused from earlier outbuildings on the property. On both faces of the southeast corner of the original house complete extents of painted siding and eave trim are in place behind these two later wings.

The present appearance of the exterior surfaces of the Fields house is almost entirely due to alterations made about 1964. Composition roofing on the house is over layers of earlier roofing and wood shingles. The exterior wall areas were covered with horizontal aluminum siding in strips about twelve inches high, enameled white on the main floor and tan in the gable ends. Exceptions to that covering are areas of painted wood work which have remained exposed at the eaves, rakes, front pediment and porch piers.

The alterations of the 1960's also changed all of the window sash, six over six sash were altered or replaced for larger pieces of glass. However since window frames and casing were retained, almost all window locations still have a window of the original overall size and proportion. On the interiors, original window trim is in place throughout. Each of the two front and two rear windows now have a single fixed light. Original sash were retained in the two second floor windows and in the three windows in the first floor's west and east bedrooms, but in each sash the muntins were removed and a single light installed. In the first floor bathroom and in the kitchen wing entirely new frames and sash were installed in the 1960s.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

A complete and accurate restoration of the exterior of the Hugh Fields house would be possible. It would not be necessary to resort to any interpretation or educated guess. The majority of the exterior wood work is still in place although covered over. Where pieces have been removed, such as, for example, the crown moldings of the antae on the back wall of the portico paint lines and unpainted surfaces clearly indicate both dimensions and profiles of the missing pieces. Examples for most of the original moldings are still on the building entirely. Missing from the building are the outer architrave moldings on doors and windows as well as the two types of jigsaw borders. Fortunately, the previous owner saved samples of each of these and they are now stored in the building.

As first constructed the first floor plan contained seven rooms and two porches, all within a simple rectangular shape. Behind the front portico the plan was organized symmetrically flanking the larger central rooms were bands of smaller rooms running north and south on the east and the west sides of the building. The width of the center is fourteen and a half feet and the width of the flanking areas about half as much. Curiously, the western band is one foot narrower than that along the east side of the building; they are six feet three and seven foot three respectively. In line with the centrally placed front door was the large square chimney; the front parlor was entered directly from outside, the fireplace in line with the door. Directly behind the front parlor, was a slightly larger room which served either as a living room or as the kitchen.

The front parlor gave access to a small bedroom on either side. But the majority of spaces were reached from the large central room in the rear: by the chimney an enclosed stair composed of winders led to two rooms on the second floor. An exterior door led to the recessed porch on the west, off of which was a small exterior pantry or wayfarers room, guest room for strangers; off the east side of the "kitchen" was a small bedroom and back hall or east pantry. The exterior door from this was directly in line with a number of outbuildings and the barn several hundred feet away.

The functional surroundings of the large rear room indicate it as the main first floor room, very suitable in position for a kitchen. It is difficult to attribute to this room the heavy functions of a kitchen for the wood work, wainscot and trim, is unusually good, and with that of the front room is finest in the house. An alternative provision may have been a free standing kitchen building, appropriate for Hugh Fields' background (Virginia) but pure speculation here.

The uses of wood detail on the interiors of the building are extensive and organized distinguishing major room from minor rooms. As originally constructed all surfaces were of wood attached directly to the studs, joists and rafters of the balloon frame. These surfaces remain in place throughout the house except that in the 1960s other materials were applied over some i.e. with plywood for carpeting on the floors and a composition on the ceilings.

The original surfaces include finish T & B boarding on floors, perhaps unpainted, and on

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 4

the ceiling, painted. The same painted boarding covers the upper walls of the two central main rooms. The upper walls of all bedrooms, however were of rough, undressed boarding finished with wall paper.

A wide band of stepped moldings surround the openings, seven inches wide at windows, eight at major doors. A thirty inch high wainscot surrounds all the first floor rooms. The wainscot is composed of stiles and rails with a molding surrounding a single, horizontal sunk panel, divided to align with the windows above. The one inch wainscot cap continues uninterrupted as the window stool and seat for the window trim. A nine inch board is the wainscot base, simply beveled in the minor rooms, but in the two center rooms a cavetto cuts out the upper edge.

The distinction between major and minor spaces is made in door detail. All exterior and interior doors are of two vertical panels with surface mounted rimlocks. The doors are constructed so that a side with molded panels faces an important space, a side with square edge panels faces a minor space and exterior doors are molded on both faces.

Several changes to the layout of the interiors were carried out apparently at the same time, on stylistic evidence between 1890 and 1910. The two central north and south rooms, formerly parlor and "kitchen" were joined together as one large room, fourteen by thirty-two feet with a wide archway. The effect is a unified one for both areas have original woodwork throughout including wainscot and trim. This enlargement was accomplished by removing the central chimney which had served both rooms and the enclosed stair beside it. A new open staircase was built in the southwest corner room, formerly a small pantry. The turned newel posts and other elements of the stair railings were newly made at this time. At the opposite side of the house, the southeast corner, a new one-story kitchen wing was constructed which incorporated the original back hall. To accomplish that, twelve feet of the east wall of the house had been removed and of course the window and former back door which were in that wall. Probably at later date, such as the nineteen thirties, the indented porch on the west side of the building was enclosed to serve as a bathroom. The finishes and fixtures now in this kitchen and bathroom all may be attributed to the nineteen forties or sixties.

An accurate restoration of the original interiors of the Hugh Fields house would be possible for very little is lacking. Examples of all moldings, trim and other wood work are present. Marks and patches indicate the positions and dimensions of the chimney, the stair, the profiles of the first risers of the stair and of a number of moldings. A neighboring house now contains one of the original mantle pieces from the Hugh Fields house which could be copied.

The main part of the house was well built and generally appears to be in a good condition. Exceptions are the composition roofing, some deteriorated, portions of the eaves and the floor structure of the front portico. The wings are in a much less substantial condition. The main rooms of the house are now used as a studio; other areas are used storage.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 5

Several features of the present landscape are historic. Probably the driveway is essentially the wagon road developed to provide access to the farm about 1850. Related to it and as early would be the track of service area perpendicular to the driveway extending several hundred feet due east of the house. Along this track stands one outbuilding, a one-story shiplapped storage building of the nineteen thirties; its western half houses the well and the pump. Substantiating the early origins of both roads was the mid-nineteenth century barn which until about 1979 sat three hundred feet east of the house at the end of the service area. Its characteristics were those of the earliest barns in the Willamette Valley, about 1855. It was recorded and is described on pages 89 to 91 of Space, Style and Structure. The U.S. Geological Survey Map of 1950 shows the extensive walnut orchard which surrounded the house on all sides. Of these trees planted in the early nineteen thirties, twenty survived the hurricane of 1962. Filbert trees now make up the bulk of the orchard. A few nineteenth century fruit trees survive on the property, including a huge pear tree just to the northwest of the house which is encompassed in the 0.91-acre nominated area. Features easterly of the driveway into the property from Highway 228, such as the service track, the storage/well/pump house of the 1930s and the contemporary residence built by the property owners in 1983, are not encompassed in the nominated area.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Exploration/settlement

Period of Significance

c. 1859
1849-1886

Significant Dates

c. 1859
1856-1870

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Hugh Fields (1828-1901)

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Hines, Rev. H.K., An Illustrated History of The State of Oregon (Chicago, the Lewis Publishing Co., 1893) pp. 661-662.
- Dole, Philip. Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley, Space, Style, and Structure (Portland, Oregon Historical Society, 1974, Vol. 1.) pp. 89, 112.
- Patricia Hoy-Hainline, "The Story of Hugh Fields," The Times (July 26, 1984) p. 2.
- Patricia Hoy-Hainline, "More About. . .Hugh Fields," The Times (August 9, 1984) p. 2.
- Corning, Howard McKinley ed., Dictionary of Oregon History (Portland: Binford and Mort, 1956) 37, 229.
- Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, Linn County, Oregon. Linn County Planning and Building Department, 1983.

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 Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Linn County Historical Museum
Brownsville OR 97327

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property approximately 0.91 acres Brownsville OR 1:62500

UTM References

A

1	0	5	0	4	6	7	5	4	9	1	3	9	5	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in the NW¼ SW¼ Section 4, Township 14S, Range 2W, Willamette Meridian in Linn County, Oregon. It is comprised of a portion of Linn County Tax Lot 1200 at said location and is more particularly described as follows:

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip Dole, Professor of Architecture, University of Oregon/(503) 686-3631

organization for William R. & Sara June Fielder, owners date August 1988

street & number 36176 Highway 228 telephone (503) 466-5589

city or town Brownsville state Oregon zip code 97327

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

The Greek Revival Farmhouse of Hugh Fields, a Virginia-born overland trail pioneer of 1845, was built about 1859. It is situated on Calapooya River bottom land two miles east of Brownsville, on the south side of Highway 228 (Brownsville-Crawfordsville Highway). The noteworthy early barn which was associated with it no longer stands.

The Fields House meets National Register Criterion C as one of only two Greek Revival houses in Oregon which exemplify the tetrastyle prostyle, or temple-fronted type with four-columned portico. The other is the previously-registered Captain John C. Ainsworth House (c. 1851) at Mt. Pleasant in Clackamas County. The number of Greek Revival houses remaining from the Territorial period (1850s) in western Oregon is dwindling. The standing examples invariably show the resourcefulness and originality of carpenter-builders in interpreting architectural style far from the centers of fashion and supply. The importance of this distinctive group of buildings was recognized more than fifty years ago by the Historic American Buildings Survey, although the Fields House was not encompassed by the recording effort of 1934. Upon its completion, the Fields House displayed an exceptional array of jigsaw borders and classical design motifs. It appears there was nothing quite like its exterior decoration anywhere in the state. From area to area, the Greek Revival houses of the Territorial period show sub-regional distinctions arising from the differing backgrounds and preferences of the builders. The Brownsville area is one such "pocket" of individual expression wherein the application of jigsaw borders and motifs of varied design distinguishes many of the fine buildings erected between 1850 and 1880 from those of any other district.

The one and a half-story Hugh Fields House is of balloon frame construction and is oriented longitudinally on its site with its temple-like portico facing north. It is symmetrically composed, with a central entrance. All the distinctive characteristics of the Classical Revival style as translated by carpenter-builders in the Willamette Valley are embodied in the Fields House, including the low pitch of the gable roof having a pedimented front and cornice returns on the rear gable end; the horizontal weatherboard siding having five inches exposed to the weather, the six-inch flush tongue and groove boarding and antae, or shadow pilasters and paneled wainscoting on the back wall of the portico; four octagonal columns, and full entablature. Also characteristic of the style is the interior wood trim with its greater elaboration and enrichment on door and window architraves in the major, central space. Of unusual interest are the jigsaw bandings suggesting a kind of stylized arcade which were applied to the entablature, raking cornice of the pediment and front door and window frames; and the Greek key corner blocks which once decorated exterior door and window frames.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2

The house underwent three important episodes of modification. The first, between 1890 and 1910, resulted in the opening of the two central rooms by an archway to achieve a single central parlor space. Bedchambers and other such smaller rooms of equal width are lined up along either side of the main space. The central chimney and the staircase which wound around it to upstairs bedchambers were removed. Two small utility wings arranged perpendicular to one another were added at the southeast corner of the house. In the 1930s, a recessed porch on the west face was filled in. In 1964, the house was encased with aluminum siding, leaving only the cornice, columns and soffit of the portico as exposed original woodwork. Moreover, original six-over-six window sash and exterior door and window architraves were removed in the process.

Notwithstanding the most recent alteration, the property was proposed for nomination in its present condition and was unanimously approved for nomination by the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation during the Committee's meeting on October 27, 1988. This finding of eligibility was carefully considered in full light of National Park Service guidance (How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, V-7, pages 43-44) on the basis of the building's rarity and the fact that in plan, mass, and certain qualities of style it conveys its essential character as a Greek Revival house. The final determining factor in the Committee's decision was the fact that ample documentation exists for restoration of exterior trim elements no longer in place. Examples of missing window frames and pieces of jigsawn borders are stored on the premises. Paint lines clearly indicate dimensions and profiles of missing moldings, and a set of snapshots taken in 1955 documenting the building's appearance before the application of aluminum siding is available. The present owners of the house plan to undertake phased restoration, beginning with the portico, and possible removal of later utility additions.

Hugh Fields (1828-1901), was actively engaged in the early upbuilding of Oregon. His adventuresome career ranged widely from helping to build the Barlow Road segment of the Oregon Trail in 1846 to helping to launch the regional woolen industry. Fields acquired the subject property in 1849 and held it until 1886. It was for a more limited time, however, the years from 1856 to 1870, that he resided on his claim on the Brownsville-to-Crawfordsville high road. During that fourteen year period Fields concluded his partnership in the Brown and Blakely store in Brownsville, ran pack trains to the gold fields of the Siskiyou, and, most significant to local economy, he invested in the Brownsville Woolen Manufacturing Company. After 1870, he was profitably involved in sheep raising in eastern Oregon for a time before returning to Brownsville, where he built a new residence in 1886. Because Fields's house of c. 1859 is the only one of two he built in the Brownsville area still standing, it is the property most importantly associated with his productive life. As such, it meets National Register Criterion B.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 3

Exploration/settlement

JUSTIFICATION: Hugh Fields House, 1859.

Hugh Fields arrived in Oregon in 1845, helped build the Barlow road, erected two early houses in Brownsville and participated in two important businesses there -- the Brown Blakely Store, and, the Eagle Woolen Mill Company. He engaged in large stock raising operations in eastern Oregon by which he earned the title, "Sheep King of Oregon". He helped organize banks in Heppner, Oregon and Goldendale, Washington. Business reverses overtook Fields in later years and he died relatively poor at the age of 73 in Portland, Oregon.

In 1845 Hugh Fields, then 17, and his brother William journeyed to Oregon overland with his two uncles, George and Hugh Currin. Hugh Fields drove three yoke of oxen in a contingent of about 40 wagons and 125 people arriving at The Dalles, Oregon after about five months' travel from Missouri.

During the summer of 1846 Fields assisted in the building of the Barlow Road. And for the following two seasons, while living with his uncles, used a strong team to assist travelers over the mountainous Barlow Road. In 1848 he left for the mines near Hangtown, California returning in September of 1849 with \$4000 in gold.

After passing the winter of 1849-50 with the Brownsville schoolmaster, Dr. Henry H. Spalding, Hugh Fields acquired 640 acres of land two miles east of Brownsville (site of the house detailed in this petition) giving half of the land to his brother William. Eventually Hugh Fields increased his land holdings in the area to about 1000 acres.

The 1850 census lists Hugh Fields as a resident of the Alexander Kirk household in Brownsville. That same year he became a partner in the Brown and Blakely Store also of Brownsville, a partnership that continued until 1856. Fields, however, soon began to run a pack train to Yreka, California with his uncle, William Currin. This latter partnership continued for about three years involving a trading post at Yreka as well as pack

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

trains to Jacksonville and Althouse in southern Oregon. Thus, Fields was an early participant in the historic gold excitement of both California and southern Oregon.

Fields married Sidney Younger in 1855 and in 1856 "settled on his farm" near Brownsville. He occupied the place until 1870. Fields built a house in the Greek Revival style (c. 1859) and a barn on the property. The barn, now demolished, has been described as, "typical of side-opening barns with lean-tos on three sides . . . a wood floored center with haymow, drive, threshing floor and grain bins (Phillip Dole, Space Style and Structure Vol. I, p. 89).

In 1870 Fields rented his farm and moved to Umatilla, Oregon where he continued the business of farming and stock-raising on about 6,000 acres of land. His stock holdings there -- horses, cattle, and sheep -- became rather substantial earning Fields the sobriquet, "Sheep King of Oregon". After a series of stock losses, however, Fields returned to Brownsville in 1878 but continued operating both holdings journeying back and forth over the mountains to eastern Oregon.

In 1886 Fields built an elegant house in the Italianate style in Brownsville, a structure said to have rivalled the Moyer house (presently maintained by the Linn County Historical Society) and the Hugh L. Brown house (now restored as Atavista Farm). This second house Fields built was torn down about 1936 after serving in its later years as a hospital or infirmary.

In the early 1860s Fields had been an investor in the Brownsville Woolen Manufacturing Co. (1863). In 1889 he was a member of the Eagle Woolen Mill Co., a group that was to buy and operate the original woolen mill. In 1889 Fields helped organize the First National Bank of Goldendale, Washington and later the First National Bank of Heppner in Oregon.

Hugh Fields died in Portland at the home of W.R. Bishop, also well-known in Brownsville, and of the family that would later found the Pendleton Woolen Mills, Portland, Oregon. Fields' business fortunes had been reversed in his later years such that his estate was unable to honor his debts in full, paying only

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 5

about ten cents on the dollar. Fields was buried at Pioneer Cemetery in Brownsville (then Masonic Cemetery) on Thanksgiving day, 1901.

Fields was born in 1828 (Grayson County, Virginia) and died at age 73. During that life span he was the owner and builder of the property and house now being nominated. This property is most importantly associated with Fields as it is the main improvement of his historic land claim and his place of residence during the periods c. 1859-1870, the decade when he most significantly contributed to the building of the community through his participation in the founding of the local woolen industry which was to be a significant industry in the area for 50 years. The Fields house c. 1886 no longer stands, nor does the woolen mill.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Classical Revival Style houses in a true temple form with a portico front were unusual in Oregon and in the northwest. The Fields house and one other Oregon house survive from this period. The Captain John C. Ainsworth house built at Mt. Pleasant in 1851 also has a tetrastyle front. The four tapered "columns" on the two-story building are also composed of octagons but paneled to have twenty-four facets.

Among Oregon's Classical Revival houses a range is found in the detailing from the simplest manifestation to the more fully developed. By far the majority of those surviving are of the simpler type. The Hugh Fields house is within the smaller group characterized by extensive exterior as well as interior detail. Within this small group there is a great amount of individuality as if each carpenter not only knew classical details very well but had his own strong preferences. Each house tends to be vigorous, individual and unusual.

The Hugh Fields house is representative of another aspect of the Classical Revival in Oregon. About the state are pockets represented by a local idiom, perhaps the expression of a group of builders or the cultural preference of an associated group of people. One such preference is found in Linn County, Oregon with a concentration at Brownsville. An aspect of these houses is a deep, fully developed entablature and another is a story-and-a-half form with a central entrance on the gabled front. These houses are similar to the Fields house but simpler and smaller. They contain a band of rooms along one side of the central room, not on two, and are not developed symmetrically. Of the half dozen houses of this type surviving in Brownsville most have been drastically altered. One which has kept its exterior is the George C. Cooley house built in 1856 and listed on the National Register. It has neither portico or jigsaw work, nor do its interiors contain wainscot.

No specific date has been found for the Hugh Fields house. Although he bought the farm in 1849, married in 1855, Hugh Fields did not settle on the farm until 1856. Stylistically a later 1850's date rather than one in the early 1850's would seem more appropriate. There is no record of a builder or architect. During this period a number of carpenters lived in Brownsville but little is known of their work.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 6

Similarities in the detail of a number of buildings suggest that the carpenter who built the Hugh Fields house was at work in the area from about 1855 to 1885. Throughout that period a kind of jigsaw work in wood perhaps unique to Brownsville was found on the exteriors of Classical Revival, Gothic and Italianate houses. In each case the workmanship and application technique were similar; the design motif, quite different. A late example is the second home built for J.M. Moyer in 1881, listed in the National Register. Flat cut outs suggesting strap work are found in the vertical, foliated strips which fill the panels of the two story corner boards. Continuous bands of cut out fleur-de-lys stand along the edges of the villa's hipped roofs.

Two Brownsville houses of the 1850's of modest size and the familiar gable front were examined in the nineteen sixties. Each had its own particular jigsaw detail applied along with eaves and other detail of more conventional classic derivation. One house may have been J.M. Moyer's first house but on a different site in 1965. The house was Classical Revival with extensive Gothic features including a long side porch of ogee arches. Its jigsaw work was in two one-story-and-a-half high lancet shaped panels flanking the front door. The illustration, page 75, of that house in Edgar Williams' Illustrated Atlas of Marion and Linn Counties, 1878, just indicates these features. The second house was the Henry Blakely house on Washburn Road. The detail was also of one-quarter inch thick wood glued and nailed in place. The two inch high decorative bands, unexpectedly placed on the face of the cornice, ran all around the house and up the rakes. The composition consisted of diamonds: a horizontal diamond followed by a pair of vertical diamonds. Apparently the classical reference was a bead and reel motif. These two classical houses were demolished in the nineteen sixties, leaving the Hugh Fields house as the lone representative of this type of detail on a Classical Revival house in Oregon. The Hugh Fields house was recorded in the Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources compiled in 1983, Inventory Number 356. It has been given a Significance Rating of 1: Prime Significance.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (continued)

Beginning at a point on the South edge of Highway 228, 660 feet, more or less, East from the Northwest corner of Tax Lot 1200, thence South 280 feet in a line perpendicular to Highway 228, thence 141 feet East, thence 280 North, and 141 feet West to the point of beginning, containing in all approximately 0.91 acres to include the house of c. 1859 and the historic pear tree believed to have been planted by Hugh Fields, the original land owner. The pear tree is located approximately 25 feet from the Northwest corner of the house and approximately 230 feet from the South edge of Highway 228.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated area of 0.91 acres includes that portion of Linn County Tax Lot 1200 containing the Greek Revival house built for Hugh Fields about 1859 and the pear tree, an historic planting, at its Northwest corner. The North boundary is Highway 228, and the East boundary follows the driveway which is perpendicular to the highway. Thus, non-historic features lying immediately East of the driveway (an outbuilding of the 1930s and a modern residence of 1983) are excluded from the nominated area.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page 1

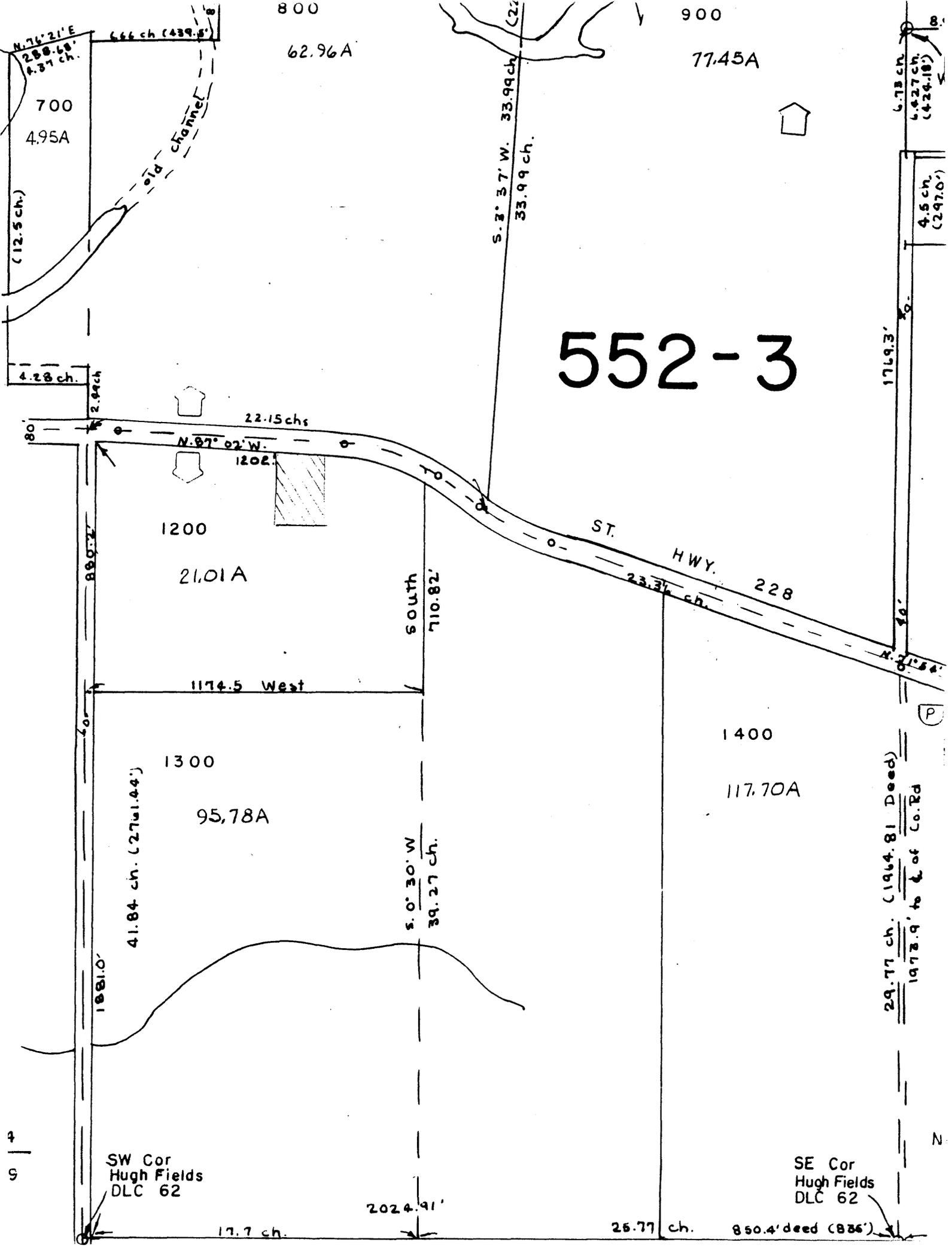
PHOTOGRAPHS

Fields, Hugh, House (c. 1859)
36176 Highway 228
Brownsivlle vicinity, Linn County, Oregon

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs were taken in 1988 by Professor Philip H. Dole, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, Eugene OR 97403.

- 1A. North (front) elevation, 1955, prior to application of non-historic siding, M.D. Ross photo collection, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts Library, Eugene OR 97403.
- 1B. North elevation, porch and columns.
2. North elevation, column detail and outline of missing trim.
3. East elevation, kithcen addition.
4. South elevation, woodhsed and pantry additions.
5. West elevation.
6. Interior, front door and wainscoting.
7. Interior, addition at middle of main room.
8. Interior, stairwell off main room.
9. Interior, stairwell view from second story.
10. Interior, main room second floor.
11. Interior, detail showing missing window mullions.
12. Interior, attic door.

A set of 3 x 5-inch snapshots of the house taken by Albany businessman Lee Rohrbaugh in 1955 are a part of the State Historic Preservation Office file record of the property.



552-3

N. 76° 21' E
288.68'
4.37 ch.
700
4.95A
(12.5 ch.)
4.28 ch.
2.94 ch.
666 ch (439.6')

800
62.96A

900
77.45A

S. 3° 37' W. 33.99 ch (22)
33.99 ch.

6.78 ch.
6.427 ch.
(424.18)

4.5 ch.
(297.0')

176.93'

22.15 chs

N. 87° 02' W.
1202'

1200

21.01A

ST.
HWY. 228
23.34 ch.

south
710.82'

1174.5 West

1300

95.78A

1400

117.70A

41.84 ch. (2761.44')

S. 0° 30' W
39.27 ch.

29.77 ch. (1964.81 Deed)
1973.9' to E of Co. Rd

SW Cor
Hugh Fields
DLC 62

SE Cor
Hugh Fields
DLC 62

2024.91'

17.7 ch.

26.77 ch. 850.4' deed (836')

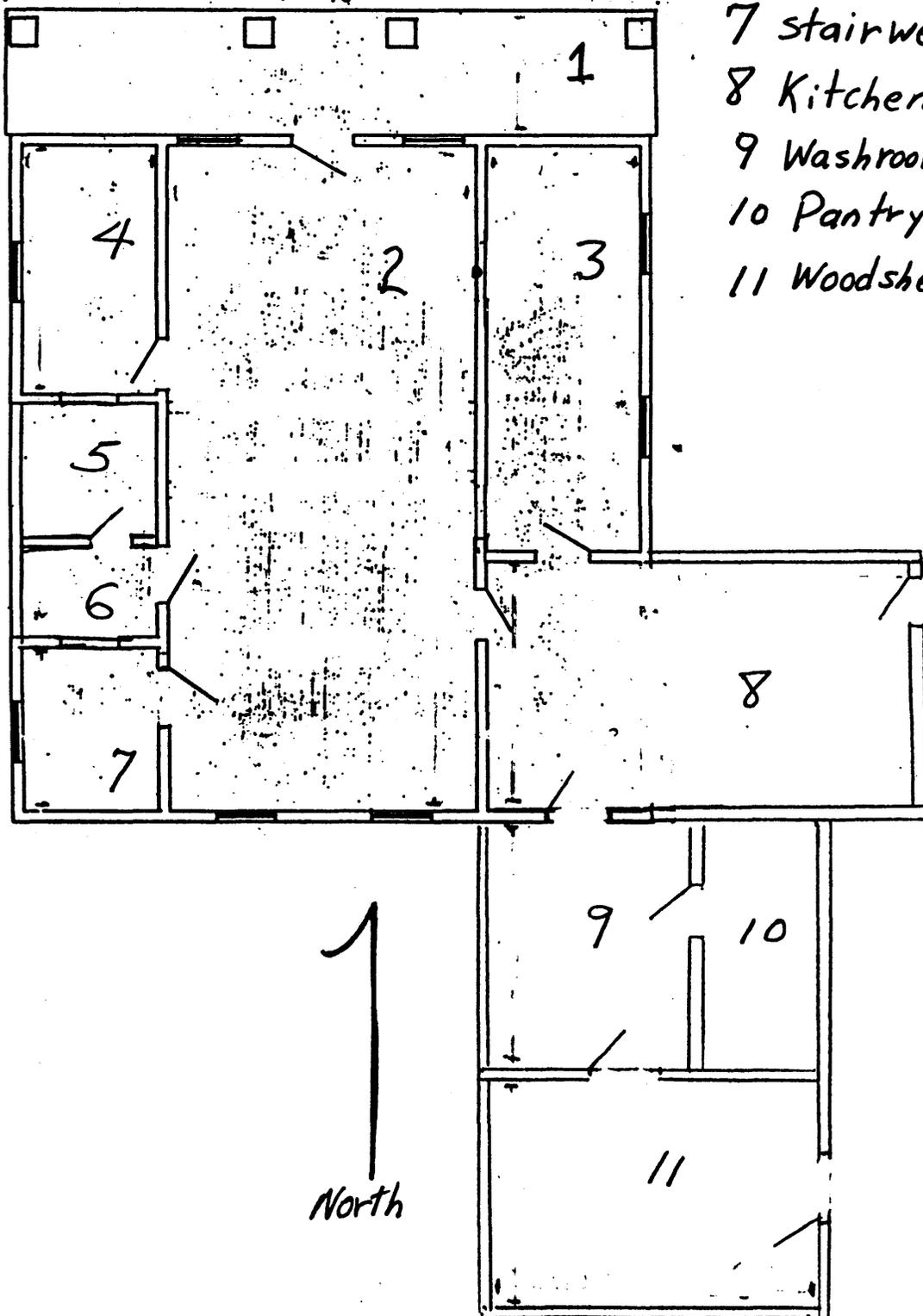
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Hugh Fields House
36176 Hwy. 228
Brownsville, Or 97327

- 1 Porch 6'x30'-10" x 8'-6"
- 2 Main room 14'-4" x 32' x 8'-6"
- 3 Bed room 7'-6" x 19'-6" x 8'-6"
- 4 Bed room 6'-6" x 12'-2" x 8'-6"
- 5 Bathrooms 5'-6" x 6'-6" x 7'-8"
- 6 Storage 5'-6" x 6'-6" x 7'-8"
- 7 stairwell 6'-6" x 7'-8" x 14'-10"
- 8 Kitchen 12' x 20'-6" x 7'-6"
- 9 Washroom 12' x 9' x 7'-6"
- 10 Pantry 6'-4" x 12' x 7'-6"
- 11 Woodshed 12'-6" x 15'-6" x 11'-6"

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



Hugh Fields House
36176 Hwy 228
Brownsville, Or 97327

- 12 ATTIC 8'-6" x 24' x 6'-6"
- 13 Bedroom 12' x 14'-6" x 6'-11"
- 14 attic 7'-6" x 32' x 6'-6"
- 15 Stairwell 6'-6" x 7'-8" x 14'-10"
- 16 Bedroom 14'-6" x 20' x 6'-11"

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

