

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED OCT 16 1979 NOV 29 1979  
DATE ENTERED

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

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  Will H. Thompson House

AND/OR COMMON  
Thompson-LaTurner House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
3119 South Day Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN  
Seattle

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7th - Mike Lowry

STATE  
Washington

VICINITY OF  
CODE

COUNTY  
King

CODE

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Gary and Gretchen LaTurner

STREET & NUMBER  
3119 South Day Street

CITY, TOWN  
Seattle

STATE  
Washington 98144

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. King County Administration Building

STREET & NUMBER  
Fourth and James Streets

CITY, TOWN  
Seattle

STATE  
Washington 98104

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Seattle Landmarks Survey

DATE  
1978

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS Office of Urban Conservation 200 Yesler Way

CITY, TOWN  
Seattle

STATE  
Washington 98104

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Will H. Thompson House faces north on a terraced corner lot planted in grass and shrubbery. Erected in 1894 in what was then a sparsely populated Seattle suburb of orchards and gardens, the Queen Anne style house is now part of a closely built city neighborhood, although it still commands unobstructed views of Lake Washington and the Cascade Mountains to the east. The two-and-one-half story cedar frame structure has clapboard sheathing, brick foundation, and full basement. It features a high hipped composition roof pierced by tall chimneys and dormers with imbricated shingles in the pediments; a ladder-type fire escape leads from a shed-roof dormer on the west elevation. The basically rectangular massing of the house is made irregular on the facade by a two-and-one-half story gable on the west and a three-story octagonal tower on the east. Paneling is applied beneath the windows of both main stories of the gable, and molded banding runs above the windows on the second story. The corners of the gable are chamfered, and the resulting angled windows in the second story are hooded with closed brackets. The pediment of the gable has a solid bargeboard and a diamond-paned window centered in a field of imbricated shingles. Most of the remaining windows in the house are double-hung sash with untrimmed framings. Molded paneling and banding articulate the stories of the tower, which is surmounted by an octagonal pointed roof.

A major feature of the exterior of the house is the first-floor porch, an open veranda which begins at the main entrance and continues around the east elevation, where it terminates at a side entrance. Turned balusters and wooden posts comprise the balustrade which encloses the porch and the straight flights of stairs at the main and east entrances. The balustrade is repeated on the facade balcony, which is accessible from a second-story door. The main door on the first floor has stained glass in the upper half and wooden panels below, an arrangement echoed in the diamond-paned sidelights and paneling which flank the door. The entire composition is topped by a three-part transom.

The interior of the residence has been somewhat modified over the years as a result of its conversion to a sanitarium and rooming house. The original and present layouts are as follows:

### FIRST FLOOR

East: parlor  
dining room (now sitting room)  
West: library (now dining room)  
kitchen (now family room)  
back porch (now kitchen)

### SECOND FLOOR

four bedrooms  
two bathrooms (one original)

### THIRD FLOOR

originally not divided (now five bedrooms and one bathroom)

The walls and ceilings of the house are plastered, and the latter are ten feet high on the first floor and nine feet on the second; floors and trim are fir. The entrance hall features a half-turn fir stairway with paneled soffit, heavily molded handrail, turned balusters, and carved newel posts. The semihexagonal landing is enriched with paneling in

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the ceiling and beneath the bay windows. The oak mantelpiece in the parlor is especially handsome, its facing of beveled glass and brick flanked by fluted columns which support a shelf with cornice. A lower shelf is held by carved brackets, and festoons are applied to the column capitals and around the mirror.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1894

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ernest A. MacKay

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Will H. Thompson House is one of Seattle's largest and most nearly intact examples of a towered Queen Anne residence. One of the earliest homes in the Atlantic Street-Mount Baker community, it has been preserved without significant changes despite its many years of use as sanitarium and boarding house. During the turn of the century, it was the home of prominent Seattle attorney Will H. Thompson.

The builder of the house was Ernest A. MacKay, who in April, 1894, applied for a permit to erect the structure at an estimated cost of \$4,500. MacKay was listed in Polk's Seattle Directory of 1897 as secretary and treasurer of the Puget Sound Glass Company; in the 1905 directory he was identified as the president of the Washington Manufacturing Company. In 1897 MacKay's house was sold at public auction and was subsequently purchased by Will H. Thompson, attorney, and his wife, Ida.

Will H. Thompson was born in 1848 in Calhoun, Georgia, and educated as a civil engineer at the Georgia Military Institute. Following the Civil War, he began the study of law, which he continued after moving to Indiana, and was admitted to the Indiana bar in 1872. In 1889 Thompson settled in Seattle and established the law firm of Thompson, Edsen and Humphries. He was especially noted for his oratorical skills, and in the political campaign which preceded the admission of Washington as a state in 1889, Thompson was chosen by the state central committee of the Democratic party to meet the Republican challenge in public debate. Although active in furthering the interests of the Democratic party, Thompson sought no office for himself. His firm became one of the most prominent in Seattle, numbering among its clients the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, for which Thompson was chief counsel. Thompson's son Maurice occupied the Will H. Thompson House from 1907 (presumably upon the death of his father) until 1917. During the 1920's and 1930's, it was operated as the Mount Baker Sanitarium under various owners. In the years of World War II, it was a rooming house for young women, and it continued to be used for multiple occupancy until purchased by the present owners in 1976. A careful restoration of the house as a private residence has been underway since that time.

The Will H. Thompson House is architecturally significant as an example of a former building type made increasingly rare in the Seattle area by radically changing preferences in style and scale. Houses of its size, if they have survived at all, have not readily maintained or recovered their role as single-family dwellings, nor escaped the denaturing of their original architectural character. The long-term integrity of the Will H. Thompson House may have been aided by the fact that although it is a fully developed representative of the Queen Anne style, with its interplay and contrast of textures, wall planes, and roof forms, it is nonetheless sufficiently restrained in its ornament and mass to make it perhaps more acceptable to later tastes than a more exuberant example would be. It is an important contribution to the understanding of the architectural history of its time and place.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hines, Rev. H.D., D.D. An Illustrated History of the State of Washington.  
 Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1893, pp.619-620.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES Quad Name: Seattle South

Quad Scale: 1:24,000

A 1,0 | 5,5,3 | 3,5,0 | 5,2 | 7,0 | 8,0,5  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B    |    |    |    |    |     
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Located on Lots 13 and 14, Block 8, Prospect Terrace Addition to the City of Seattle. Bounded on the east by 32nd Avenue South and on the north by South Day Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Lawrence Kreisman, Research Assistant. Edited by Dawn Maddox

ORGANIZATION

Office of Urban Conservation

DATE

January 26, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

400 Yesler Way

TELEPHONE

(206) 625-4501

CITY OR TOWN

Seattle

STATE

Washington 98104

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Jeanne M. Welch*

10-9-79

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

*Carol D. Shell*

DATE

11-29-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ANCESTRY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Kristin J. O'Connell*

DATE

11/26/79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER