

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington	
COUNTY: Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.9.46.0010	DATE 9/29/90

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
James (Francis Wilcox) House

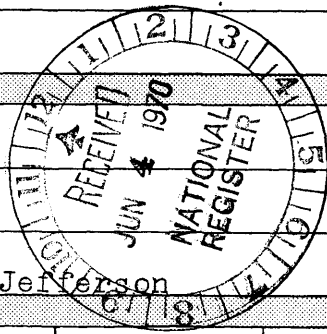
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington & Harrison Streets,

CITY OR TOWN:  
Port Townsend

STATE: Washington CODE: 46 COUNTY: Jefferson CODE: 031



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
Mr W. A. Eaton

STREET AND NUMBER:  
2020 Washington

CITY OR TOWN: Port Townsend STATE: Washington CODE: 46

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Jefferson & Cass Sts.,

CITY OR TOWN: Port Townsend STATE: Washington CODE: 46

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Lots 7, & 8, Block 60

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Washington  
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DATE: 9/29/90  
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**7. DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>INTEGRITY</b>	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A feature of the Francis Wilcox James house is its chimney that disappears and reappears again. The mansion has some of the fanciest shingles in the state--three types of patterns.

Inlaid hardwood parquet floors in the entrance hall and the master's suite were unusual in Port Townsend at the time this home was built. The stairs are finished with wild cherrywood brought around Cape Horn from Virginia and carved locally in a spiral design on the newel post. There are five usable fireplaces and four others that have been sealed off.

Upstairs the whole front section on the right of the second floor was the master's suite, with dressing room and arched alcove for bay window and a sliding glass door leading to the captain's walk in front of it.

The house has filagree door knobs and hand-carved bronze hinges. All of the woodwork is finished with medallions clear to the third floor. Brick walls in the basement are 18 inches thick.

The carriage house on the property was once taller than the residence, having a tank on top that furnished water to part of the town, for James had an artesian well on his property.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

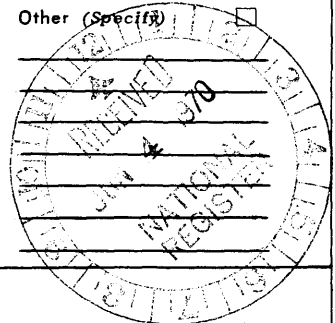
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)      1889

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	losophy	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Communications	<input type="checkbox"/>	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	itarian	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>		
		Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>		



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Francis Wilcox James, a native of England, arrived in Port Townsend in 1853 and became a customs inspector. He built his house about 1889 for his wife in New England, but she died before coming west. James became head inspector, and was so highly thought of that when the steamship Southerner was wrecked south of Cape Flattery in 1855, he was sent to render assistance and to guard the interests of the owners of the vessel. He remained at La Push for almost a year, and was so well liked by the Indians, that they gave the name of James Island to the mass of rock lying at the mouth of the Quillayute River in honor of him.

When he returned to Port Townsend, Mr James opened a trading store which he operated profitably until 1882 when he retired from active business and devoted his attention to his large private affairs, and at the time of his death in 1920, left one of the largest estates ever accumulated in Jefferson County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Jefferson County Historical Society Research Library  
 "By Juan De Fuca's Strait" by James G. McCurdy

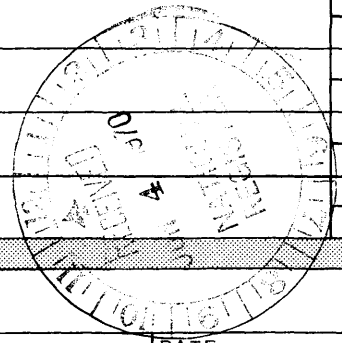
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"
				48	06	50
				122	45	35

NO 07mi  
CD

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs Gerald A. Hunt

ORGANIZATION: Jefferson County Historical Society

DATE: 10/6/69

STREET AND NUMBER: 5th and Wilson Streets,

CITY OR TOWN: Port Townsend

STATE: Washington

CODE: 46

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**      **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National     State     Local

Name: Charles H. Odgaard  
 Charles H. Odgaard

Title: Director  
 Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief Allen Connally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

SEP 20 1970

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

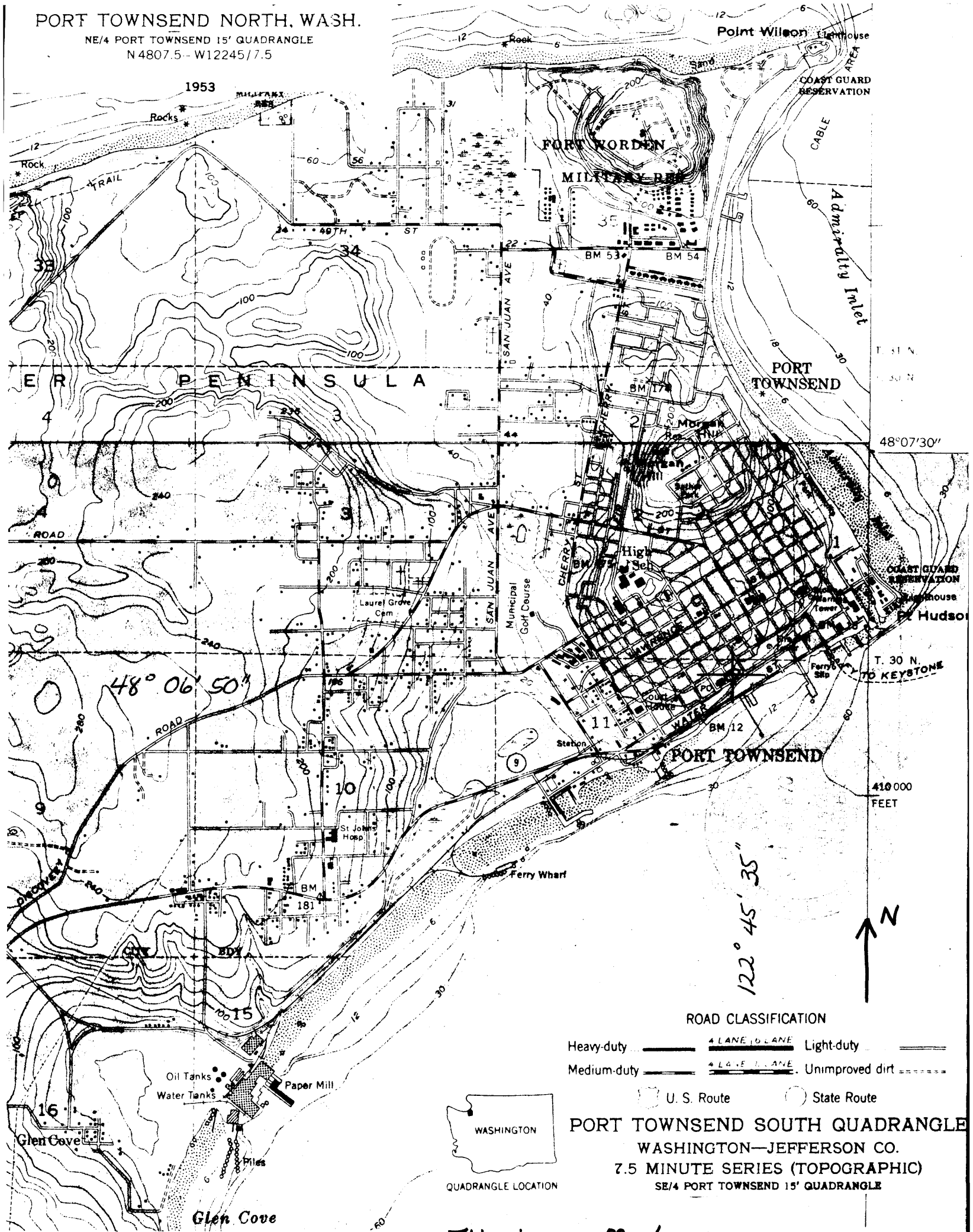
William Johnston  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **JUL 8 1970**

# PORT TOWNSEND NORTH, WASH.

NE/4 PORT TOWNSEND 15' QUADRANGLE  
N 4807.5 - W12245/7.5

1953



### ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy-duty 4 LANE 10 LANE Light-duty
- Medium-duty 4 LANE 10 LANE Unimproved dirt

- U. S. Route
- State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

## PORT TOWNSEND SOUTH QUADRANGLE

WASHINGTON—JEFFERSON CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SE/4 PORT TOWNSEND 15' QUADRANGLE

*This is an offset print.*