

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	King
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	OCT 15 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Neely, Aaron ~~Senior~~<sup>Sr.</sup>, Mansion

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: E of Auburn off WA 18  
Route 1, Box 880

CITY OR TOWN: Auburn Vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #6 - Honorable Floyd V. Hicks

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53

COUNTY: King

CODE: 033

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" 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	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

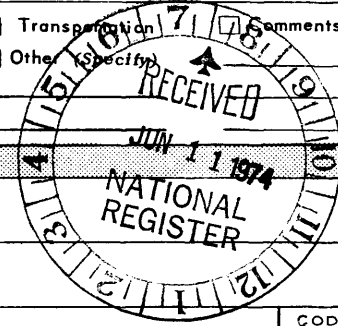
OWNER'S NAME: Neely, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1, Box 712

CITY OR TOWN: Auburn

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53



**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER: 5th & James

CITY OR TOWN: Seattle

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: None

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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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Neely Mansion is a large, two story clapboard building square and simple in plan but adorned with a number of turned and sawn decorative details.

Window openings occur regularly on all sides; two appear on either side of the center doorways on the first and second floors and three, on each floor of remaining sides of the house. All windows are double hung and have an entablature and decorated surround. Sawn scrollwork is placed below each lintel when the inclusion does not interfere with porch roof lines.

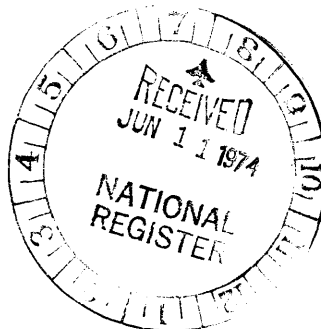
A decorative corbel table separates the first and second stories and continues as frieze decoration on the front and side porches. The side porches run the length of the building and are decorated with turned spindles and posts and sawn brackets with turned knobs. The center porch continues up into a second floor balcony covered by a gable that projects into the pyramidal roof of the house. The interior of the boxed, pedimented cable cornice is filled with diamond pattern shingles and is penetrated by a central round window. The cornice detail of the center protico a boxed cornice with swag frieze detail separated by brackets - continues as the eave treatment for the body of the house.

The inside of the house is characterized by high ceilings and spacious rooms. On the lower floor is the kitchen, dining room, parlor, and master bedroom. The entire upstairs is reserved for more bedrooms. The lower five feet of the walls in the house are covered with maple paneling while the remaining portion of wall is white plaster. Lighting in the house was supplied by candles and oil chandeliers which were hung from the ceiling and could be raised and lowered by hand.

Over the years, some structural changes have occurred in the house. Before World War II electricity was added, and in 1948 it was resingled, a new foundation provided, and a concrete base added to the front porch.

Most changes in the appearance of the house have arisen through the deterioration of the original structure rather than through new construction. For example, when new, the house was painted white, although this can hardly be discerned now. The foundation has become uneven, and wood rot has infiltrated some portions of the house. Most of the rooms are unused by the tenants presently living in the house and are simply collecting dust and debris.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**4. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1894

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> 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/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Community</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

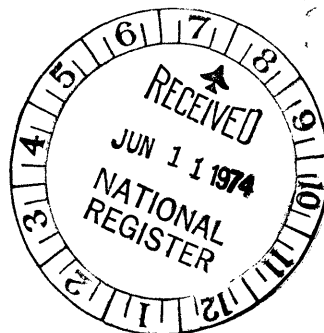
The David Neely family was among the first to arrive in Washington's Green River Valley. After having made a hazardous overland journey from Tennessee in 1853, they crossed the Naches Pass and arrived at Porter's Prairie near Enumclaw in Washington territory. He settled in Kent and both he and his family both avoided being killed by Indians who attacked the area in 1855.

David Neely's son Aaron moved to Auburn where he married; and his daughter Lenore, born early in 1879, became the first white child born in the area. Soon after her birth, Aaron moved to the present site of the Neely Mansion which he and a few workmen built in 1894.

Many gala parties were held for friends and neighbors who would spend the night in the house during shopping excursions to Auburn. On those occasions, all of the doors on the lower floor would be opened and the dancing partners would swirl from room to room to the music provided by the local fiddlers.

The Neely Mansion is significant as a piece of house architecture in that it demonstrates the effect of readily available manufactured wooden decorative components on a very basic plan. It is significant also as an indicator of growing affluence in family areas close to Seattle and as an important social center for the Green River Valley.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bagley, Clarence B. History of King County, Washington. S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., Chicago, 1929.

Interviews with Mr. Aaron Neely, Jr.

Tacoma Sunday Ledger - News Tribune, October 23, 1955.

Seattle Times, Monday, August 11, 1958.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

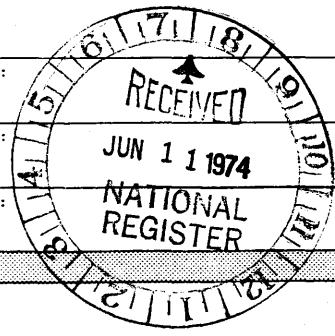
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N47° 18' 03"	W122° 10' 36"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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5237701  
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

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: Robert E. Gaines

ORGANIZATION: Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce DATE: February, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 24 B Street

CITY OR TOWN: Auburn STATE: Washington CODE: 53

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

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Charles H. Odegaard</u> Charles H. Odegaard</p> <p>Title <u>Director - Washington State Parks &amp; Recreation Commission</u></p> <p>Date <u>June 7, 1974</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>10/15/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>10 4 74</u></p>
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