

HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

State of Washington, Department of Community Development
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11
Olympia, WA 98504 (206) 753-4011

IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Site No. 34-313 OAHF No. _____ Date Recorded 5/15/85 revised 8/87
Site Name Historic Colvin House
Common n/a
Field Recorder ss/tc
Owner's Name Fred and Doris Colvin
Address Box 637
City/State/Zip Code Tenino, WA 98589

LOCATION SECTION

Address 16828 Old Highway 99
City/Town/County/Zip Code Tenino vicinity/Thurston/98589
Twp. 16N Range 2W Section 35 ¼ Section NE ¼ Section SE
Tax No./Parcel No. 09600004000 Acreage 1.25 acres
Quadrangle or map name Tenino 7.5
UTM References Zone 10 Easting 508400 Northing 5186240
Plat/Block/Lot See Verbal Boundary Description
Supplemental Map(s) See Sketch Map

MAY 1 1985

Status

- Survey/Inventory
- National Register
- State Register
- Determined Eligible
- Determined Not Eligible
- Other (HABS, HAER, NHL)
- Local Designation

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Neg. No. 2s-15, 17
(Roll No. & Frame No.) 14-8, 9, 10
View of SW corner (house); SE corner (house); Interior (barn)
Date 5/16/85; 7/87

Classification District Site Building Structure Object

District Status NR SR LR INV

Contributing Non-Contributing

District/Thematic Nomination Name Historic Resources of Unincorporated Thurston County

DESCRIPTION SECTION

Materials & Features/Structural Types

Building Type Domestic/Residence
Plan T-shaped
Structural System Wood plank
No. of Stories Two

Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces)

- Log
- Horizontal Wood Siding
 - Rustic/Drop
 - Clapboard
- Wood Shingle
- Board and Batten
- Vertical Board
- Asbestos/Asphalt
- Brick
- Stone
- Stucco
- Terra Cotta
- Concrete/Concrete Block
- Vinyl/Aluminum Siding
- Metal (specify) _____
- Other (specify) _____

Roof Type

- Gable Hip
- Flat Pyramidal
- Monitor Other (specify) _____
- Gambrel
- Shed

Roof Material

- Wood Shingle
- Wood Shake
- Composition
- Slate
- Tar/Built-Up
- Tile
- Metal (specify) _____
- Other (specify) _____
- Not visible

Foundation

- Log Concrete
- Post & Pier Block
- Stone Poured
- Brick Other (specify) _____
- Not visible

Integrity (Include detailed description in Description of Physical Appearance)

	Intact	Slight	Moderate	Extensive
Changes to plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to windows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to original cladding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changes to interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is a part of property legally described thusly: Lot #43 of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter Section 35 Township 16 North Range 2 West, commencing 250 feet east of the east line of the Colvin Donation Land claim. The

nominated portion is described thusly: Beginning at a point 600 feet north of the intersection of Scatter Creek and the west line of Donation Land Claim No. 43, proceed north 500 feet along the west property line, proceed east 600 feet, proceed south 500 feet, proceed west to point of beginning.

Verbal Boundary Justification: The nominated parcel includes all the farmstead structures historically associated with the Ignatius Colvin family.

Number of Contributing Resources: One building (house)

Four structures (barn, garage, windmill, shed)

Number of Noncontributing Resources: 0

High Styles/Forms (check one or more of the following)

- Greek Revival
- Gothic Revival
- Italianate
- Second Empire
- Romanesque Revival
- Stick Style
- Queen Anne
- Shingle Style
- Colonial Revival
- Beaux Arts/Neoclassical
- Chicago/Commercial Style
- American Foursquare
- Mission Revival
- Spanish Colonial Revival/Mediterranean
- Tudor Revival
- Craftsman/Arts & Crafts
- Bungalow
- Prairie Style
- Art Deco/Art Moderne
- Rustic Style
- International Style
- Northwest Style
- Commercial Vernacular
- Residential Vernacular (see below)
- Other (specify) _____

Vernacular House Types

- Gable front
- Gable front and wing
- Side gable
- Cross gable
- Pyramidal/Hipped
- Other (specify) _____

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit Themes (check one or more of the following)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics / Government / Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture / Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment / Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Science & Engineering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic Heritage (specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Movements / Organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Health / Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning / Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing / Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Study Unit Sub-Theme(s) (specify) <u>Exploration/</u>
<u>Settlement</u> |

Statement of Significance

Date of Construction 1877 Architect / Engineer / Builder Ignatius Colvin Level of Significance: local
 In the opinion of the surveyor, this property appears to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places Period of Significance: 1877-1937

In the opinion of the surveyor, this property is located in a potential historic district (National and / or local).

The Ignatius Colvin House is a well-preserved pioneer home associated with one of the largest 19th century land owners in Thurston County. The house, one of the few extant examples of cedar plank construction, retains its original setting and architectural features. Colvin, an area pioneer, was instrumental in clearing and developing land for cultivation in southern Thurston County and northern Lewis County and was a leading stockman in the district.

Ignatius Colvin, a native of Boone County, Missouri, first came West as a driver of a U.S. Government commissary wagon destined for Fort Vancouver. He then crossed the Columbia and worked making shingles. Later, he made his way northward to Tumwater, participated in the ill-fated Queen Charlotte Islands gold expedition of 1851, and then settled in the Grand Mound area in 1854 where he took up a donation land claim on Scatter Creek and built a home (not extant) a quarter mile from the present house. In 1855-56, Colvin served with Charles Eaton's company during the Indian Uprising. Colvin again went prospecting in 1863 to the Salmon River mines.

After his return to Thurston County, Colvin acquired almost 3,000 acres in the vicinity of the house, which is actually on the William Martin Donation Claim. Colvin also owned considerable land in adjoining Lewis County. In the 1860s, Colvin and his son cleared an additional 480 acres in the Upper Hanaford Valley, leading the way, according to one source, to "the prosperity of the valley for farming." Colvin raised cattle and other livestock on the mounded prairie land (which was burned every third year), and was one of the largest stockmen in the region. (continued)

Description of Physical Appearance

The Colvin House is located on Rock Prairie, originally a mounded area adjoining Scatter Creek. Towering maples surround the house which is reached by a half-mile lane from the main highway. The ranch land hosts rare species of butterflies and wildflowers. The one and one-half story house is a side gable structure built of plank construction. The house has a central cross gable which projects from the front facade and a gabled one story wing which projects off the rear to form an L-shaped plan. The house is covered with clapboard siding with cornerboards and a simple frieze under the eaves. The original panelled front door is surrounded by sidelights and lit by a transom. Fenestration includes two-over-two double-hung sash windows and a six-over-six window in the center front gable.

The porch, which wraps around the west and south sides, replaced the original and the northwest corner was enclosed for a bathroom. The rear wing has a shed roof porch on the north and south sides. The interior boasts original window frames, back-to-back fireplaces (one has been re-bricked) and many original panelled doors. Although alteration has occurred on the interior, the original plan remains intact, and the original cedar plank construction is evident on the second floor walls.

A breezeway connects the porch to a garage built in 1914. The garage has a gable roof and is clad with drop siding and cornerboards. Sliding doors open on the north and south sides. Also on the property is a 1914 era barn which has a gable roof, drop siding, and a new metal roof. Small four-pane windows light the interior. A windmill of later vintage is near the house. Although not closely associated with the activities of Colvin, the ancillary structures contribute to the evolving character of the historic farmstead.

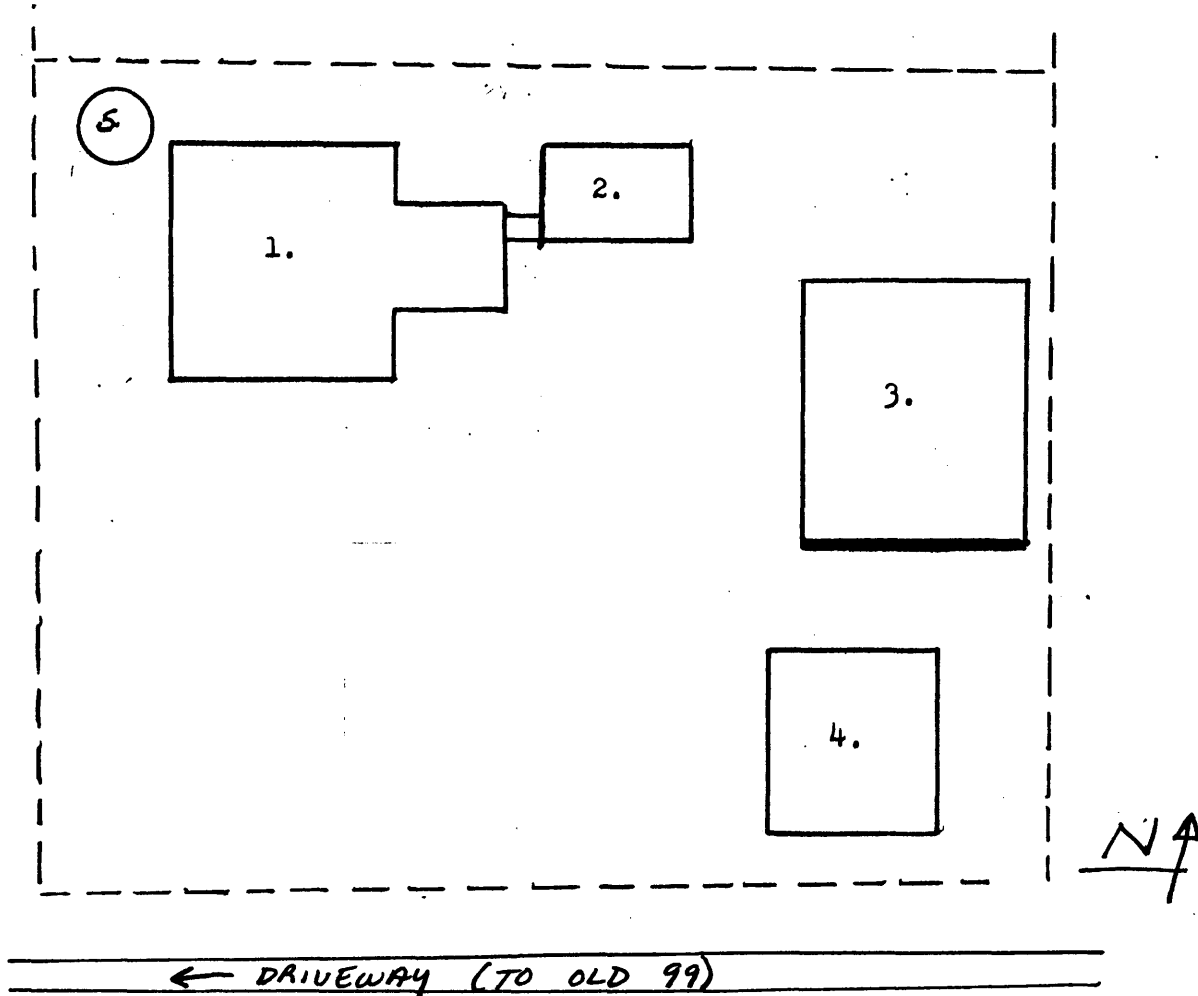
Major Bibliographic References

- Bancroft, H.H. History of Washington, Idaho and Montana, The History Company, San Francisco, 1890.
Hine, H.K. History of Washington, Lewis Publishers, 1894.
Interview with Fred and Doris Colvin, current owners, June, 1987.
"Pioneer Life of Mound Prairie is Described," Tenino Independent, March 29, 1935, p. 1.
Smith, Herndon. Centralia, the First 50 Years, 1845-1900, Centralia Chronicle, Centralia, 1942.

IGNATIUS COLVIN HOUSE

Significance (continued):

The present house, built in 1877, was the center of the Colvin farmstead and a sometime way-station on the stage coach route, according to family members. The first floor bedrooms open onto the porch and visitors could leave without disturbing the rest of the household. The house has remained in the Colvin family, retains its setting and integrity, and is a significant example of mid-19th century construction techniques and vernacular forms. The Nature Conservancy has identified three rare natural species which habituate the Rock Prairie on the Colvin Ranch. On the endangered species list are the White Topped Aster wildflower and the Edith's Checkerspot and Mardon Skipper butterflies.



COLVIN HOUSE
 16828 Old Highway 99
 Tenino, Washington

- Contributing Resources: 1 House
 2 Garage
 3 Barn
 4 Outbuilding
 5 Windmill

---- = boundary
 NOT TO SCALE