

PHO 698393

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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

KELLER HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

KELLER HOUSE

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

700 NORTH WYNNE STREET

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

COLVILLE

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th - Thomas S. Foley

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

WASHINGTON

CODE

53

COUNTY

STEVENS

CODE

065

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

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

MUSEUM

___ PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

CITY OF COLVILLE

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

COLVILLE

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

WASHINGTON

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Stevens County Auditor
Stevens County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

217 South Oak Street

CITY, TOWN

Colville

STATE

Washington

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Stevens County Cultural Resources Survey

DATE

October 1978

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Stevens County Planning Department

CITY, TOWN

Colville

STATE

Washington

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Keller house was the fashionable and elegant home of two of Colville's founding fathers and wealthy businessmen, John H. Young and Louis G. Keller. Designed in the bungalow style by Loren L. Rand, a leading architect of Spokane, it was constructed by a Colville contractor, D.H. Kimple for Mr. J.H. Young in the year 1910. The Keller house sits atop a wooded knoll near the center of the seven acre estate purchased by Mr. Young in 1889. The property is primarily wooded with a ridge of exposed rock in the northeast corner of the estate. The nominated property consists of one acre of the seven acre estate and contains the house, carriage house, lawns and gardens. The rest of the estate, not to be nominated, will be maintained in its natural state except for the proposed historical park in the southwest corner of the property, and the Stevens County Historical Museum which occupies a portion of the southeast corner of the property.

The building has a square floor plan and measures roughly forty by forty feet in its overall mass. It has two and one half stories with a full basement. The rubble foundation is made of native stone and mortar and is 18" thick. The nailed balloon frame of native pine is covered on the exterior walls by clapboard with cedar shingles under the gables. The bungalow style is displayed in many elements throughout the house such as the medium-low pitched roof line, the large front porch and the string course between the stories. These horizontal elements balance the height of the second story and result in the "classic box" type of bungalow prevalent throughout the north-west in the early 19th century.

Also in keeping with the style is the emphasis on the wood frame "stick work" of the roof line, the textural quality of the building materials and the many projecting bay and dormer windows. The projecting eaves of the roof and porch are embellished by decorative outriggers, brackets and verge boards, all adding to the "stick" effect. Textural patterns are seen in the contrast of clapboard and shingle siding, in the rustic appearance of the brick chimney where moulded bricks are used as rough accents, and in the variety of leaded and beveled glass windows. An assortment of dormers and bay windows, each unique and embellished with stick work, are additional features of the house consistent with the bungalow style.

The main entrance of the house is graced by a large porch which covers the entire facade. The overhanging eave of the porch roof line is broken on the right side by a projecting gable which sets off the wide wooden stairway leading to the front door. The large boxed cornice under the porch roof emphasizes the horizontal character of the structure. The roof trim of the porch echoes that of the rest of the building in its decorative brackets, outriggers, and verge boards. An additional bungalow feature of the porch are the square clapboard columns which taper gradually as they ascend from a wide base. A three foot high clapboard wall partially encloses the front porch. The main door is recessed slightly as are the side panels containing leaded and beveled glass windows. The lintel has a small entablature and the side surrounds are plain.

The original windows are still intact throughout the house. On the ground floor in the front of the house is a large three sash window with mullions. The center sash is a large picture window and the side sashes are identical beveled and leaded glass windows with an intricate design of flowing curved lines. Another window of this type is in the music room. Two exquisite windows are found in the living room on either side of

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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of the fire place. The Josephine knot pattern has been interpreted into an intricate design for these leaded and beveled windows. The second story windows are all two sash double hung with the upper sash consisting of twelve panes. All of these windows have a moulded head surround on the exterior while on the interior wall they are set into deep wood casings.

A driveway, coming off Wynne Street, winds past the museum and along the east side of the house, forming a loop behind the house and in front of the carriage house. The carriage house is a square two story wood structure with clapboard siding and a hip roof. A cupola sits atop the roof and a gable dormer forms the opening to the second story. Rock walls and gardens are deployed over most of the acreage being nominated. Being a hilly area, rock gardens and terraced lawns were constructed on some of the embankments. Virgin pine, fruit trees and ornamentals are found in the north and east gardens, while the west slope of the sweeping front lawn is lined with chestnuts, maples and birch trees. The rest of the seven acres has been left natural. Dirt paths meander throughout the hilly wooded property to rock promontories which command a panoramic view of the city and valley. The estate retains an aura of wilderness sheltered from the outside world by dense trees and a rocky knoll. It is an oasis in a rapidly growing small town.

The interior of the Keller house contains the most distinctive and noteworthy features of the estate. Except for the furniture and some of the wallpaper, which the historical society is in the process of replacing in keeping with the style of the house, the interior decoration is original and unaltered. The Craftsman movement was the inspiration for the style of the decor and the layout of the rooms. Built-ins, handcrafted furnishings, naturalistic design motifs, roomy living spaces, few wall separations and the use of smooth, natural hardwood, are some of the main features in the house characteristic of the Craftsman movement.

Entered by the front door, a small enclosed vestibule is beautifully lit from the beveled windows on either side of the front door. A red birch built-in seat with a hinged top, a beveled mirror and a rustic handcrafted hat rack grace this tiny but distinctive room. From the vestibule you enter the largest room of the house, the living room, approximately twenty by thirty feet. A large terra cotta pressed brick fireplace with red birch built-ins and leaded glass windows on either side graces the west wall. The built-ins were skillfully handcrafted to echo the design of the wood mantel over the fireplace. One of the built-ins contains a bookcase enclosed by a multiple paned door; the other is a seat with a hinged top for storing firewood beneath. Four boxed and moulded red birch beams run the length of the ceiling. Wide red birch moulding along the ceiling and floor corresponds well to the beams and carries out the Craftsman idiom of structure and function.

The spacious quality of the house is enhanced by the large openings into the music and dining rooms. Four square and moulded wood columns frame the open entrance into

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the music room. A beam ceiling like that of the living room and a large three sash beveled window further enrich the room. The wide doorway into the dining room is equipped with a red birch panelled sliding door. Originally the doorway also had a rod and draperies.

The dining room is another spacious living area, approximately twenty by twenty-five feet. A large bay window extends practically the length of the east wall while on the north wall at eye level are four leaded and beveled glass windows set into a shallow bay of red birch. The ceiling has red birch beams running in a crosswise pattern. The painted wall covering is another aspect of the house inspired by the Arts and Crafts movement. The coarsely woven cloth is painted with gilt and then an Art Nouveau foliate design was hand painted over the gilt. Wall coverings of this type were popular in Spokane and could be seen in houses designed by L.L. Rand and K.K. Cutter.

The flooring throughout the entire house is oak with the exception of two larch floors in the second floor bedrooms. On the main floor a black walnut strip outlines the oak floor and creates a pattern in the room corners. The light fixtures are all original hand-blown, stained, or beaded glass, with exquisite bases and chain links.

The kitchen contains the original sink, built-in cabinets, pantry, and larder. The second floor consists of three bedrooms, a bath, separate commode and built-in linen room. Off the north bedroom is a screened-in sleeping porch. The two south facing bedrooms received most of the decorating attention. Entering diagonally through doors in the corner of the rooms, one is immediately drawn to the large bay windows which flood the spacious rooms with light. Larch is the wood used predominantly on the second floor for doors, window casings and mouldings. Both bedrooms have built-in sinks with decorative fixtures.

The bath has a white ceramic sink and tub. The sink has a pedestal base and a wide fluted rim. There are many chrome-plated nickel fixtures in a delicate curvilinear style. Small hexagonal marble tiles cover the floor. The bottom half of the wall is white tile with a decorative bond of blue marking the edge of the tile and the beginning of the wall paper.

A fire in 1912 destroyed much of the first floor. The loss was estimated at about four thousand dollars. During the rebuilding, Mr. Young called for a few changes in the interior decorations. Photos and building specifications of 1910 reveal these alterations. Originally, all wood on the first floor was curly fir as opposed to red birch. In the dining room the beamed ceiling and wall paper were added at this time. The oak floors were salvaged and moved to the second floor while the main floor received new oak floors with black walnut inlay. The fireplace was also altered with the terra cotta brick facing removed on the upper half of the wall above the wood mantel.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1910-1912

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Mr. L.L. Rand, Architect

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Keller House is significant to Stevens County and the City of Colville as an intact example of fashionable and elegant early twentieth century architecture and for its historical value as a memorial to two of Colville's civic and business leaders. These men were among the handful of people whose dedication and foresight turned the frontier mining town into a thriving commercial center. This spacious bungalow style house was by far the most elegantly furnished and decorated home in Stevens County during its day and is an excellent example of the English Arts And Crafts movement in the design of the interior decorations. It exists today unaltered and in exceptionally good condition due to the excellent care taken by Mrs. Anna Keller Young and the foresight of Mr. Keller in his donation of the entire 7 1/2 acres estate to the City of Colville, who has been assisted by the Stevens County Historical Society in its maintenance and restoration. It is open to the public for viewing free of charge.

Mr. Loren L. Rand, a leading architect of Spokane, designed the house along the bungalow lines conforming to the fashion of the day. Although the style was losing favor in California, where it had its beginning, it was still thriving throughout the Northwest. The bungalow, which adapted well to all income levels, was made more luxurious in the Keller House by the use of expensive materials such as hard wood interiors, imported wallpaper and handcrafted glass, metal and window fixtures. This elegance sets the Keller House apart from other bungalows within the City of Colville.

Mr. Loren L. Rand was one of Spokane's leading architects from 1888 through 1915. He studied in Boston at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and opened up his first office in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Among the many outstanding buildings he is responsible for in the City of Spokane are residences for Judge Nash and E.L. Powell, stores and warehouses for the Crescent and Spokane Dry Goods, the Masonic Temple, now on the National Register of Historic Places, the Old National Bank Building, fifteen schools, and a number of hotels and churches. Mr. Rand was written up in the Western Architect, Sept. 1908, in their article on Spokane architecture.

J.H. Young (1854-1914) for whom the house was constructed, came to Colville in 1885 from Spokane where he had operated a stage line from Spokane to Fort Spokane. The Old Dominion Silver Strike in the hills north of Colville in 1885 drew hundreds of prospectors into the Northeast Washington Territory anxiously seeking out the minerals of the area. Young quickly seized upon the opportunity of the growing community and set about to provide transportation for the miners and their supplies. Young's livery stable and stage service was one of the first businesses in the newly platted (1883) town of Colville. Previous to 1883 the site of Colville was a farming valley occupied by the ranches of former officers at the U.S. Fort Colville. A small settlement,

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Building Contract & Specifications for Home of J.H. Young
March 21, 1910 by D.H. Kimple
2. Durham, N.W.
History of the City of Spokane and Spokane County, S.J. Clarke Pub. Co.
Spokane, 1912 Pg. 67

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY One acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Colville

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1	4	3	3	0	6	0	5	3	7	7	7	6	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

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

Claudia Himmelberg, Director of Cultural Resources

10/12/78

ORGANIZATION

Stevens County Planning Department

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 191 Stevens County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

684-2401

CITY OR TOWN

Colville

STATE

Washington

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

Janice M. Willett

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE February 20, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles E. ...
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

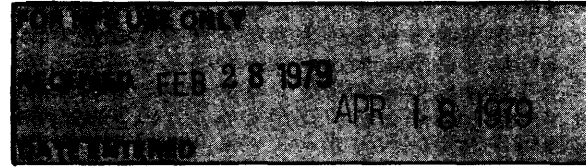
DATE 9-18-79

ATTEST: *W. Ray ...*
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 4/16/79

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Pinkney City, had grown up around the U.S. Army Fort Colville in the hills three miles northeast of the site of Colville. It was this settlement, slowly depopulating due to the abandonment of U.S. Fort Colville, that formed the nucleus of the new town, now moved more advantageously to the valley, close to the expected center of trade, agriculture and transportation. In 1885 to 1920 was a period of continual growth for Colville. On the heels of the mining boom came the railroads which increased the rate of Colville's growth as a commercial center of the Northwest.

"Few men had as much to do with the actual development of Colville as did Harry Young . . ."¹ Young was viewed by his contemporaries as a major force behind the early construction of the railroad, and the location of many businesses in Colville. In addition to lending his support for the incorporation of Colville, he was also responsible for the platting of Buckley's & Corbin's Additions.

In 1889 Young started a real estate business and began to invest in the future of the area. He purchased an interest in the Silver King Mines at Nelson, and began acquiring property in and around Colville. He was responsible for the erection of a number of buildings in Colville during the building boom of the 1880's and 1890's. In 1893 Young purchased the newspaper the Colville Republican and renamed it the Colville Index planning to "swing it into line with the democrats".² His intelligent handling of public issues in the press confirmed his aptitude as a leader and he was selected as Democratic party leader in two campaigns. Responding to the desire of the county residents to have telephone service, Young helped organize the International Telephone Co. in 1895, becoming its Vice President.

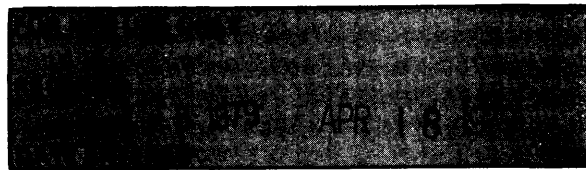
Young's investment in the Silver King Mine paid off handsomely. He sold his interest for one million five-hundred dollars which he invested in Spokane and Colville real estate. He assisted in the foundation of three of Colville's early business organizations, the First National Bank of which he was vice president, the Colville Abstract Company and the Title Guaranty and Investment Company. These companies are operating in Colville today under different names. In 1903 Young purchased and modernized the Rickey Building, the oldest brick business building in Colville, and kept his abstract office there until he died.

J.H. Young married Anna Elizabeth Helberg (1880-1959) of Spokane in 1908. Anna Helberg Young was a well educated woman and an accomplished pianist. She graduated from Oberlin College in Ohio and continued her music studies in Germany. Anna and her parents had apartments in the Rickey Building owned by Mr. Young. Their courtship was followed by a grand wedding that included a parade through town.

One of their first activities was the designing of a home to sit atop a private wooded knoll in the northern part of town. Their new home was destined to become the showplace of Colville. Mrs. Young was devoted to her garden and enjoyed growing exotic varieties of trees and flowers. Paths meandered throughout their estate.

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Young's death occurred September 2, 1914, only two years after the house was completed. He committed suicide apparently to escape the persistent pain of his rheumatism. A beautiful but simple funeral was held on the lawn of his estate and the eulogy portrayed him as a wise and enterprising man, dedicated to movements for the general welfare of the public. "He was a singularly gifted man attractive in countenance and demeanor displaying an intelligence both wise and influential."³

On June 12, 1915, Mrs. Anna Young married Louis G. Keller of Colville. They took up residence in the beautiful home built by Mr. Young and soon became noted for their gracious entertaining. Mrs. Mary Goetter, a close friend of Anna Keller's remembers well the dances and parties she went to at their home. An orchestra played in the music room while the guests danced in the dining room. The music would drift outside to be enjoyed by those gathered on the front lawn and porch. Mrs. Goetter and Anna Keller became friends due to their shared interest in gardening. Mrs. Goetter commented on the beauty of Anna's rock and flower garden and her devotion to their upkeep.

Louis G. Keller (1881-1966) was from a wealthy Cincinnati family who had hardware stores and homes in Florida and California. He graduated from the Colorado University School of Law but never practiced law.

In 1907 Louis Keller came to Colville and with his father's financial backing opened up a hardware business with his brother William and Mr. L. Stannus. Located in the Rickey Building, a large centrally located commercial building owned by J. H. Young, Stannus-Keller Hardware became one of the most flourishing enterprises in Northeast Washington. In addition to being a prominent merchant Keller became a leading figure in the growth of Colville as a commercial center of the Northwest. He was instrumental in forming the Colville Chamber of Commerce and in 1910 became its first president. Planning for the future of Colville was another of his concerns. He spent many years on the State Good Roads Commission, as chairman of the City Water Committee and a member of the Colville Fire Department where he was the Chief in 1909-10. From 1923 to 1944 Keller was the sole owner and operator of Kellers Hardware. He retired and sold out to Louis Strauss owner of Barmans Dry Goods in 1944. Barmans Hardware still occupies the same building today.

Keller's civic minded generosity extended beyond his own life. In his will he bequeathed to the City of Colville his estate to be used for historical purposes and for the benefit of the public. A trust fund of fifty-thousand dollars was set up to provide maintenance on the house and property.

Under the guidance of Stevens County Historic Society the Keller Historical Park has expanded its services to the public. In 1975 a museum was built on the estate to house the collections and exhibits of early Stevens County. On a few acres of the estate a log cabin village is being developed where select buildings of the nineteenth century will be used in an interpretive display.

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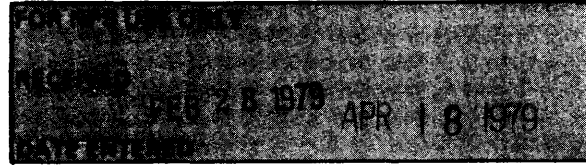
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1. Colville Examiner, January 24, 1925
2. Colville Index, June 3, 1916 in "After 23 Years"
3. Colville Examiner, Saturday, Sept. 12, 1914

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3. Steele, R. and Rose A.
An Illustrated History of Stevens, Ferry, Okanogan & Chelan Counties
Western Hist. Pub. Co. 1904 Pg. 327
4. Colville Examiner June 19, 1915, Sept. 5, 12, 1914, Colville Wa.
5. Statesman Examiner March 4, 1966, Colville Wa.
6. Interview, Mrs. Mary Goetter, Colville, Wa. Oct. 10, 1978

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LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Commencing at a point on the North line of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 9, Township 35 North, Range 39 East W.M., which is 573.01 feet East of the East right-of way of Lincoln Street,; thence N 00°03'02" W, along a North-South trending interior property line and the control line of this description 49.84 feet to an Iron Pin and the POINT OF BEGINNING:

Thence Westerly along a line perpendicular to the established control line, 140 feet; thence Northerly along a line parallel to the established control line 275 feet; thence Easterly along a line perpendicular to the established control line 140 feet to the control line; thence S 00°03'02" E along the control line to a point marked by an iron pipe which is 156.88 feet North of the point of beginning; thence Easterly along a line perpendicular to the interior control line 100 feet; thence Southerly along a line parallel to said control line 100 feet; thence Westerly along a line perpendicular to the control line 100 feet to the control line; thence S 00°03'02" E along the control line to the point of beginning.