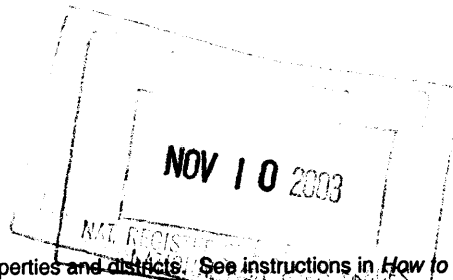


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name WILLIAMS, JAMES & CORINNE, HOUSE  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 1225 WEST 19<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town SPOKANE vicinity X  
state WASHINGTON code WA county SPOKANE code 063  
zip code 99203

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

11-6-03

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.  
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register  
\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper:

Date of Action:

Edson H. Beall 12/23/0

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>  2  </u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	objects
<u>  2  </u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

  N/A  

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

  NONE  

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:   DOMESTIC  

Sub:   SINGLE DWELLING  

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:   DOMESTIC  

Sub:   SINGLE DWELLING  

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

  LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENTURY  

  AMERICAN MOVEMEN  

  (Prairie and Craftsman style)  

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation   STONE  

roof   COMPOSITION SHINGLE S  

walls   BRICK, WOOD: SHINGLES  

other       

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheet

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

**A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

**B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

**C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

**D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

**A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

**B** removed from its original location.

**C** a birthplace or a grave.

**D** a cemetery.

**E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

**F** a commemorative property.

**G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1911- 1944

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1911

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

ALBERT HELD (Architect, attributed to)

CYRUS AUGUSTUS CONANT (Builder)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository:  
 Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office City Hall, Spokane, WA 99201  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** \_\_\_\_\_ Less than One acre \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 11 467775 5275900  
 Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

The nominated property encompasses Lots 5-6, Block 22 of the Irving Heights Addition in Spokane, WA.

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

The nominated property includes the entire parcel and urban legal description. Spokane County, WA Parcel Number 35302.3305.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title \_\_\_\_\_ LINDA YEOMANS \_\_\_\_\_

organization \_\_\_\_\_ HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ MARCH 2003 \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ 217 West Front Street \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (509) 456-3828 \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ SPOKANE \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ WA \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_ 99203 \_\_\_\_\_

WILLIAMS, JAMES & CORINNE HOUSE

SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_ ROGER & KATHLEEN CHASE \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ 1225 WEST 19<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_ (509) 838-1040 \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ SPOKANE \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ WA \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_ 99203 \_\_\_\_\_

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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JAMES & CORINNE WILLIAMS HOUSE  
Spokane County, Washington

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

Built in 1911 and designed with a blend of Prairie and Craftsman-style influence, the James & Corinne Williams House is one of the most intact and best preserved homes in Spokane, WA. The house follows a modified rectangular plan with formal massing and has a low-pitched hipped roof. A 68-foot-wide, first-floor, full-width front porch is the home's most distinctive feature and extends past both ends of the house, forming wrap-around porch extensions and an attached *porte cochere* on the east elevation. Another dominant feature of the house is the roofline and wide, overhanging eaves of the house and porch. The eaves cast deep shadows across the house that exaggerate the home's horizontal lines, rendering it organically integrated to the flat building site on which it is built. The house is supported by a two-foot-thick basalt stone foundation, an iron I-beam under the first floor, and is completely clad in smooth pressed-brick that covers 14-inch-thick brick masonry load-bearing walls. The interior of the house is a blend of Prairie and Craftsman-style elements and features an open floor plan with a large central hall, clean lines, built-ins, and finished-oak woodwork. The house is located in an area of tree-lined streets and 50-foot-wide lots in the greater Cannon Hill Park neighborhood on Spokane's South Hill. Facing north, the house fronts West Nineteenth Avenue and is set behind a cultivated lawn that slopes towards the street. Also built in 1911, a garage echoes the house in design and materials and is located on the southeast corner of the lot. The house and garage are in excellent condition and have had little alteration since their construction. The garage and house retain all seven elements of integrity: original location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

**CURRENT APPEARANCE & CONDITION**

*Site and Exterior Appearance of House and Garage*

Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of West Nineteenth Avenue and South Adams Street, the Williams House and garage are sited on Lots 5 and 6, Block 22, in the Irving Heights subdivision, one and one-half miles southwest of downtown Spokane, WA. The subdivision extends west from South Madison Street to Cedar Street, and south from West Fourteenth Avenue to Twenty-first Avenue. The property measure 100 feet wide and 142 feet deep, and is surrounded by single-family homes built from 1910 to 1940. The Williams House rises two and one-half stories and forms a slightly irregular rectangular footprint that measures 48 feet wide and 36 feet deep with 1,728 square feet each on the first and second floors. The exterior walls of the house are constructed of brick masonry and are clad in red pressed-brick and black mortar laid in common bond. The brick is smooth and unadorned, except for a cut sandstone belt course that separates the first story from the second story just below the window sills of the home's second-story windows.

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The Williams House is capped by a low-pitched hipped roof that flares slightly at the eaves and is covered with composition shingles. The widely overhanging roof eaves are open and are supported by scroll-sawn rafter tails. The north, east, and west roof slopes are each embellished with hipped roof dormers. The south roof slope features a shed-roof dormer flanked by two eyebrow windows. Two brick chimneys rise from the roof at the east and west elevations of the house. The west chimney is distinguished with three concrete chimney pots. A one-story porch spans the full width of the home's facade and wraps around the front northwest and northeast corners of the house. The majority of original windows in the house are symmetrically placed one-over-one, double-hung, wood-sash units. Exceptions are fixed plate-glass units located in the living room, dining room and sun room, and original casement units located on the second-floor master suite dressing room, and on the third-floor stair landing.

The facade of the Williams House faces north. The porch and *porte cochere* are supported by massive square brick pillars and a wide brick porch wall with cut sandstone coping. A small second-story balcony extends over the center entry of the first-floor porch. It is partially enclosed by a shingled wall and is supported by three square columns at the northeast and northwest corners. Decorative mortise-and-tenon joinery embellish the columns. Original galvanized metal downspouts are painted white and are attached to the northeast and northwest corners of the house. The east elevation of the house is dominated by a one-story *porte cochere* that extends east ten feet from the first-floor porch wall. A one-foot-high sandstone stoop originally designed for horse-and-buggy access separates a paved driveway from the porch. The rear, or south elevation of the house, is dominated by a full-height bay that features an enclosed sunroom on the first floor and an open sleeping porch on the second floor. The second-floor sleeping porch is supported by two square columns at the southeast and southwest corners of the porch. Located at the southeast corner of the house, a shed roof covers an enclosed one-story porch with a back entrance adjacent to the sunroom.

*The Interior*

An original plate-glass and oak-paneled front door opens into a small vestibule. The vestibule features a built-in bench seat and wainscoting made of oak, and an original brass and hand-blown swirl-glass light fixture. The floor is covered with original one and two-inch tan, brown, and rust-colored glazed ceramic floor tiles arranged in a random pattern. The vestibule opens to a large foyer and central hall that lead to a dining room on the east, a living room and library on the west, and a staircase and hall to the south. The spacious foyer is a focal point of the interior and is embellished with original solid oak floors, hand-rubbed quarter-sawn oak woodwork fumed and finished to a golden-hued patina. Here a 40-inch-wide formal dogleg staircase winds up to the second and third floors. The staircase features an open string design with oak treads and risers, a stepped balustrade with square spindles, and a total of 12 square newel posts embellished with decorative

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carved and incised geometric designs characteristic of the Craftsman and Prairie traditions. A built-in oak bench seat is located at the base of the stairs in the foyer. Across from the stairwell, three sets of solid oak-paneled pocket doors slide open respectively to reveal a dining room, a living room, and a library.

The dining room features oak wainscot, an oak plate rail, and a built-in oak buffet and china cupboard with multi-paned glass doors and original brass hardware. Designed as a food service feature, the buffet extends to the kitchen via an open backsplash. The living room, located west across the foyer from the dining room, is a large rectangular room with a fireplace on the west wall. The fireplace features an oak mantel and a green-glazed, matte-finish, Craftsman-style ceramic tile fireplace surround and hearth. The south wall of the living room opens to a small library with a plate rail and built-in oak bookcases with glass doors. Craftsman-style wall sconces are located in the library. The library opens to a central hall, which leads to a powder room (under the stairs), an enclosed sunroom and porch, a remodeled kitchen, and a narrow staircase that is located at the rear of the house and was originally designed for use by domestic help. Ceiling heights for the first floor measure nine feet high.

A formal oak staircase located in the foyer winds up to the second floor, which comprises four bedrooms, two bathrooms, and two porches. Except for the finished-oak stairwell, all of the woodwork on the second floor is painted white enamel. The ceilings rise to eight feet. An original circa-1911 cast iron-and-porcelain oval clawfoot bathtub, pillbox toilet, and pedestal wash basin are located in the bathroom on the west wall. Another bathroom is located on the east wall but was remodeled in 1991. A dressing room with built-in closets and dressing table is located on the north wall and opens to a second-floor balcony. The oak staircase narrows to 36-inches-wide at the second floor as it ascends to the third floor. The third floor has two bedrooms, a bathroom with an original claw-foot bathtub and a wall-mounted wash basin, and an unfinished storage room. The basement of the Williams House is finished and features nine-foot-high ceilings, a poured concrete floor, and rooms for laundry, fruit and cold storage, mechanical and furnace equipment, and a large recreation area.

*The Garage and Garden*

The garage is a one-and-one-half story brick masonry building that measures 16 feet wide and 18 feet deep, and reflects the design and materials used on the house. The garage has red pressed-brick walls, a low-pitched hipped roof, widely overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails, and four dormers centered on the north, south, east, and west roof slopes. The garage was originally designed with one carriage house door that was replaced



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with a pair of carriage house doors sometime after 1936. In 1959, a swimming pool, which is made of poured concrete with a vinyl liner, was constructed below grade just west of the garage. The garden and pond located in the southwest corner of the property were originally designed by Mrs. Williams and constructed during the 1920s. Although a replacement water pump was installed in the 1990s, the original design for the garden and pond, and some of the plantings, remain according to historic photographs of the property. The pond is round with about a three-foot radius and is constructed of basalt rock with exposed mortar. It is less than two feet deep.

**ORIGINAL APPEARANCE & SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS**

Very few exterior alterations have been made to the Williams House since it was built in 1911. The original wood-shingled roof was replaced with composition shingles in 1940, 1980, and 1994. Designed for sleeping in fresh air, the north and south elevation second-floor balconies/porches were originally enclosed with screens that were removed in 1955. Metal storm windows were installed over original first and second-floor windows from 1970 to 1990. The one-story back porch at the southeast corner of the house was partially enclosed in 1991.

First, second, and third-floor interior changes are minimal except for the original butler's pantry and kitchen on the first floor. The butler's pantry was removed and the kitchen remodeled in the 1950s, followed by another remodel in 1991. The circa-1991 kitchen remodel features an oak floor, built-in painted wood cupboards and cabinets, and period lighting fixtures. Shelves in a second-floor linen closet were removed and replaced with a stacking washer-and-dryer unit in 1991, and a bathroom on the east wall was remodeled in 1991. Except for the vestibule and the front porch, all of the original light fixtures in the house were replaced in the 1950s with architecturally inappropriate lighting which was then replaced by appropriate light fixtures in the 1990s. In the basement, a coal-fired boiler originally produced hot water heat that was piped to radiators located throughout the house. The original radiators remain, but heat is currently produced by a circa-1996 gas-fired boiler. The basement was renovated and refinished in the 1990s to include a large recreation room.

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**STATEMENT of SIGNIFICANCE**

Built in 1911 for Spokane attorney James A. Williams and his wife Corinne Conant Williams, the Williams House was one of the first dwellings built in the Irving Heights Addition and was home to the Williams family for thirty-three years. According to Williams family decedents, the home's design is attributed to noted Spokane architect Albert Held and was built by Corinne Conant Williams's father, Cyrus Augustus Conant, a Spokane general contractor who specialized in bridge building. The house is remarkably intact, possesses high artistic value, and embodies distinctive characteristics of the Craftsman and Prairie styles. During its period of significance from 1911 to 1944, the house achieved importance through its association with neighborhood development and local building trends that were popular during the early 20th century in Spokane, WA. As such the James & Corinne Williams House is architecturally significant and is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C.

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

Spokane began in the 1870s and grew to over 100,000 by 1910. Railroad magnates, lumber barons, mining millionaires, and wealthy businessmen bought land in the city and commissioned Spokane's architects and builders to design and build their new homes. These houses ranged from grand to moderate dwellings built from designs regarded as modern and fashionable for the time. The finished homes and their groomed grounds attracted prospective homeowners acting as catalysts and cornerstones for the subsequent settlement of residential neighborhoods throughout Spokane. The James & Corinne Williams House, located in the Irving Heights Addition in the greater Cannon Hill Park neighborhood, is one such home.

*Irving Heights Addition and the Cannon Hill Park Neighborhood*

Before 1887, the Irving Heights Addition was undeveloped, unplatted land located on a wide plateau at the top of a high basalt bluff that overlooks the city. The undeveloped plateau was characterized by gentle slopes and an irregular rocky landscape with verdant stands of pine and cedar trees, scrub brush, wildflowers, and native grasses. Rocky basalt outcroppings dotted the landscape, and Native Americans hunted wild game throughout the area. Between 1887 and 1889, the land was platted with 50-foot-wide lots located between a gridwork of streets. By 1905, sporadic homesites dotted Irving Heights Addition and the greater Cannon Hill Park neighborhood, but without city services such as fresh drinking water, underground sewer, and paved roadways, area settlement was slow. Then, in 1907, the nationally acclaimed Olmsted Brothers architectural landscape firm of Brookline, Massachusetts visited Spokane at the invitation of Spokane's Park Board. Famous for their park designs of New York's Central Park and Boston's park system, the Olmsted Brothers espoused ideals that linked clean fresh air to renewed, invigorated health. They promoted city parks as one of the best means of drawing urban residents outside. In their report to the Spokane Board of Park Commissioners in 1913, the

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Olmsteds claimed that parks were aesthetically necessary and called them the tool that could “preserve or provide landscape for the enjoyment of [all] people.” The Olmsted firm proposed a comprehensive park plan for the entire city of Spokane that included a small 14-acre park at the site of an abandoned brickyard. This park was located at West Eighteenth Avenue and South Lincoln Street, which is adjacent to the Irving Heights Addition. The park was first called Adams Park, and was later christened Cannon Hill Park.

Construction of Cannon Hill Park commenced in 1908. The park was completed with shallow ponds, manicured lawns, indigenous plantings, and arched bridges constructed of native basalt. The park’s aesthetic appeal and close proximity to Spokane’s central business district prompted developers to risk speculative success and improve the area with much-needed infrastructure. By 1910, roads were graded, concrete curbs and sidewalks were set, sewer lines were laid, fresh drinking water was supplied, electric street lights were installed, and street trees were planted. Public transportation was provided by cable cars that made a loop from downtown Spokane.

Building restrictions and community covenants were instituted in the Cannon Hill Park area and served as early land use controls designed to regulate and protect neighborhood development. The covenants permitted the construction of single-family homes, but prohibited the erection of apartments, grocery stores, or other business structures. The covenants also stated dwellings must be set back 25 to 30 feet from the street and must be valued at \$3,000 or more. Settlement was slow but steady. By 1945, Irving Heights Addition and the Cannon Hill Park area were completely developed. Most of the domestic architecture built in the neighborhood represented vernacular bungalows and small Tudor Revival-style cottages, but a few larger, stylistic homes were constructed and intermixed with the vernacular dwellings. These larger homes included stylistic examples depicting architectural traditions such as Tudor and Colonial Revivals, Spanish Eclectic, Italian Renaissance, Craftsman, and Prairie styles.

*James Albert Williams and Corinne Conant Williams*

Williams family diaries report that James Albert Williams was born in Bethel, Ohio in 1870, attended college at the University of Oregon, and taught school in counties near Eugene, OR. In 1892, Williams changed his career path and studied law under the direction of Eugene attorney A. E. Gallagher. One year later, the two men relocated to Spokane where Gallagher employed Williams as a law clerk, and the next year, as a law partner. Williams practiced law and partnered with various Spokane attorneys for the next 50 years, including his sons Richard and Jerome, and his son-in-law, Paul Cooney. During his law career, one of William’s more prominent clients was the Cowles family who published the *Spokesman-Review* and the *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, the city’s two most widely read newspapers. Williams was vice president of Northwestern

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Title Insurance Company and was an active member of local county, state, and national bar associations. His offices were located in the Hyde Block; and later, in the Paulsen Building. Dedicated to the practice of law, Williams worked until his death in 1962 when, at the age of 92, he was declared at that time to be "Spokane County's oldest [practicing] attorney" (*Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 18 January 1963).

In 1904, James A. Williams married Corinne Adeline Conant, and together they moved into the San Marco Apartments located on West Riverside Avenue. They lived there for two years and then moved to a single-family residence at West 525 Waverly Place. In 1911, the Williams relocated to their newly erected home at 1225 West Nineteenth Avenue, custom-designed and built for them. They raised five children, Roger, Jerome, Richard, Dorothy, and Jack, and provided a home from time to time for various grandchildren and Corinne's mother, Johanna Conant. The Williams employed a cook (Mary Saare), a maid (Rachael Horn), and a nurse/governess (Gertrude Schmidt); the nurse and cook lived in the house in quarters on the third floor. Even though they owned an automobile and had second-floor living space in the garage dedicated for use as a chauffeur's quarters, the Williams had no need for a driver. James Williams rode the street car to his office in downtown Spokane, while Corinne Williams drove the family car. Williams family records indicate that she was one of the first women in Spokane to be issued a Washington State driver's license. The Williams family lived in the house until November, 1944, when they sold it to William and Alice Winkler for \$19,000

*Other Owners of the Williams House*

In 1919 William Winkler founded a concrete and road construction business and called it the William Winkler Company. He was president of the company for 66 years and, according to a newspaper account, was responsible for the company's construction of hundreds of miles of concrete sidewalks, curbs, and roadways in Spokane (*Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 20 March 1967). William and Alice Winkler lived in the Williams House for 11 years and raised 11 children. In addition to fulfilling her home-based responsibilities, Alice Winkler was a noted civic benefactor who "volunteered thousands of hours to various civic, school, and church organizations" (*Spokesman-Review*, June 9, 1990). In 1955, the Winklers sold the house for \$20,000 to George Melvin, his wife Jackie, and her parents Nelson and Josephine Maxwell.

George Melvin taught school and Jackie Melvin played violin with the Spokane Symphony. An accomplished musician, Jackie Melvin taught music lessons in the sunroom in the Williams House and hosted musicals and orchestra parties in the home. In 1961, Gonzaga University English literature professor William Safranek, and his wife Mary Lou, bought the house for \$30,000. They raised six children and lived in the house for 28 years. In 1989, Roger and Kathleen Chase bought the Williams House for \$152,000. Roger Chase is the general

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council for the Sisters of Providence health care providers in Eastern Washington and Western Montana. Kathleen Chase teaches Montessori Preschool, and daughters Stephanie and Elizabeth are currently enrolled as university students.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Williams House was one of the first homes to be built in the Irving Heights Addition. During its period of significance from 1911 to 1944 (during the thirty-three years that James & Corinne Williams owned the property), the house acquired importance through its association with the Williams family, the development of the Irving Heights Addition, and the building trends, styles, workmanship, and materials that were popular during the early 20th century in Spokane. Conveying these building trends, the property is architecturally significant for its physical features, artistic qualities, and mix of architectural styles.

In the context of Spokane, the James A. Williams House is a fine blend of the Prairie and Craftsman styles. Like many midwestern versions of the Prairie style, which have been documented by noted author Paul Duchscherer in his book, *The Bungalow: America's Arts and Crafts Home*, the Williams House is constructed of brick masonry load-bearing walls clad in smooth pressed-brick. Typical of the Prairie style as explained in Duchscherer's book, strong horizontal lines are revealed on the Williams House. These lines include a broad house form, low-pitched roof, widely overhanging eaves, and a one-story porch and *porte cochere* that produce a wide span of nearly eighty feet across the face of the house. Of primary importance to the Prairie style ethic, the exaggerated horizontality and wide design of the house effectively integrate the dwelling to the expansive hillside on which it is sited. The home's exposed rafter tails and built-in interior design features are influenced by the Craftsman style, which was also popular when the house was built in 1911. Located in a neighborhood of mostly small bungalows and Tudor-Revival-style cottages, the Williams House stands out as a uniquely designed dwelling with a strong blend of Prairie and Craftsman-style influence, and is the largest home built in the Irving Heights Addition.

*The Architect*

Although printed documentation has never been found, Roger Williams (grandson of James and Corinne Williams) attributed the design for the Williams House to Spokane architect Albert Held. Williams, who was raised by his grandparents in the Williams House, remembered his grandfather telling the family many times about the house and when it was built. Roger Williams said that his "grandfather hired his long-time friend, Albert Held, to design the kind of house he and his grandmother wanted, a large brick house for a large family."

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Spokane County, Washington**

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Williams said that his grandparents became especially familiar with Held's work when they lived in the San Marco Apartments (which was designed by Held), and when Williams occupied office space one floor below Albert Held's office in the Hyde Block. According to *Spokane Skyline: A Century of Architecture 1889-1989* (pp. 39-40), and Held's obituary (*Spokesman-Review*, 29 June 1924), Albert Held was born in Minnesota in 1866 and in 1889 came to Spokane, where he worked until his death in 1924. He was active in city planning, served on the Spokane Park Board, and was the first architect in Spokane to join the American Institute of Architects. Noted for his fine work, Held was responsible for the Holley-Mason Building, Home Telephone Company, and the Ammann, Breslin, and Knickerbocker Apartments. He also designed single-family homes, including the Armstrong House (1022 West 9th Avenue), James Clark House (2308 West 3rd Avenue), Robbins House (2425 West Pacific Avenue), and the Moses Phelps House (2118 West 2nd Avenue).

Although the design for the Williams House is unique, other Spokane homes designed by Held feature similarities found in specific predominate architectural elements and form. These include one and one-half to two-story rectangular house forms with hip roofs, widely overhanging eaves, hipped dormers, usually a symmetrically balanced design, and a general feeling of solid construction. These features are evident on the Armstrong, James Clark, Robbins, and Phelps homes and the Ammann Apartments.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: MAPS, DRAWINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS**

*All photos were taken in 2003 by consultant, Linda Yeomans.*

Map	Williams House: USGS quadrangle 7.5 series, 1:24,000 scale map of property location.
Drawing 1	Williams House: Site plan and house footprint (source: Spokane County Assessor).
Drawing 2	Williams House: Footprint and floor plan of property (not to scale).
Photo 1	Williams House: North facade.
Photo 2	Williams House: Northwest corner of house.
Photo 3	Williams House: Northeast corner of house.
Photo 4	Williams House: North facade detail.
Photo 5	Williams House: South, rear elevation of house.
Photo 6	Williams House: Stairs in foyer.
Photo 7	Williams House: Stairs at second-floor landing, looking down to foyer.
Photo 8	Williams House: Built-in bookcases in den, looking west.
Photo 9	Williams House: West elevation of house.
Photo 10	Williams House: Garage, north elevation.

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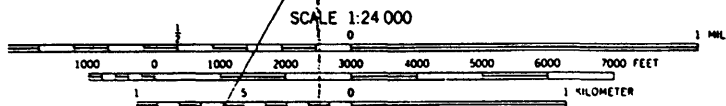
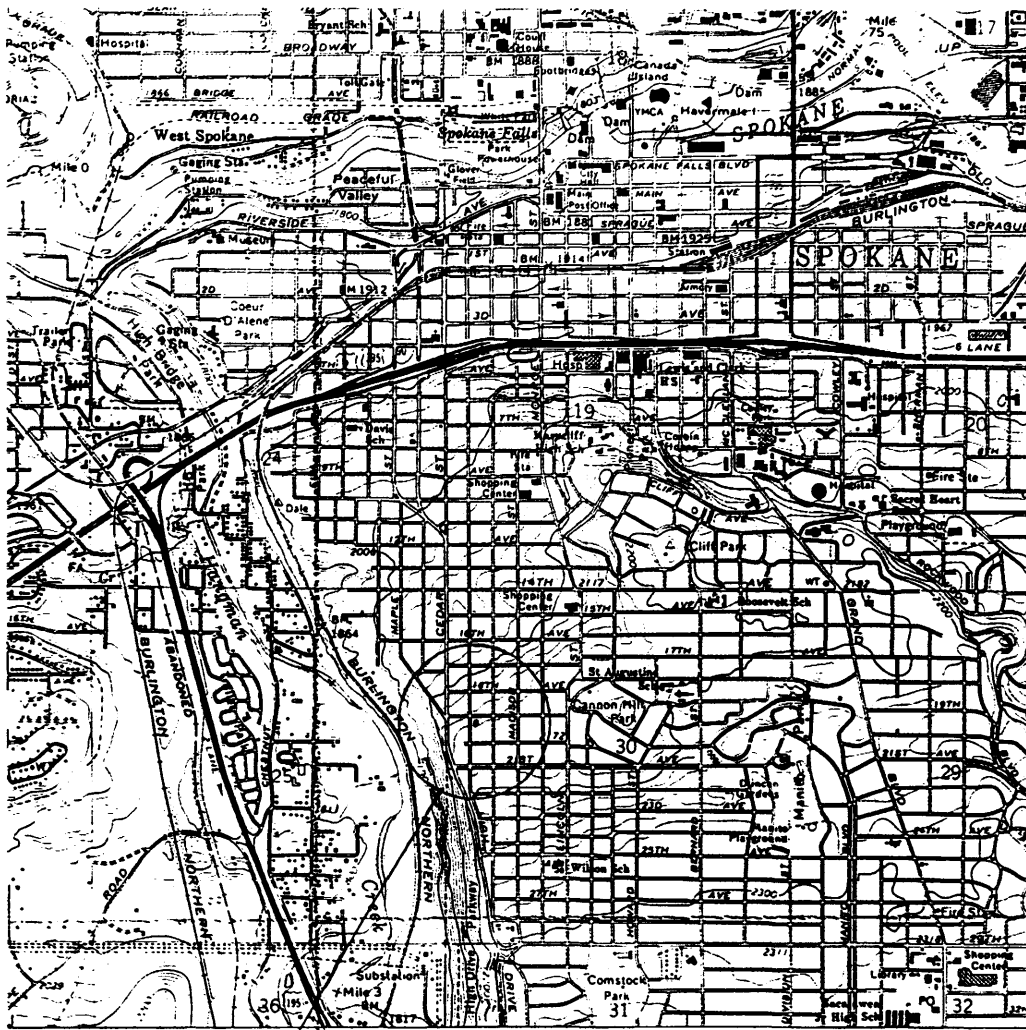
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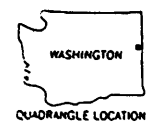
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JAMES & CORINNE WILLIAMS HOUSE  
Spokane County, Washington

Map USGS quadrangle 1:24,000 scale map of property location.



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS  
DOTTED LINES CROSSING RIVERS REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



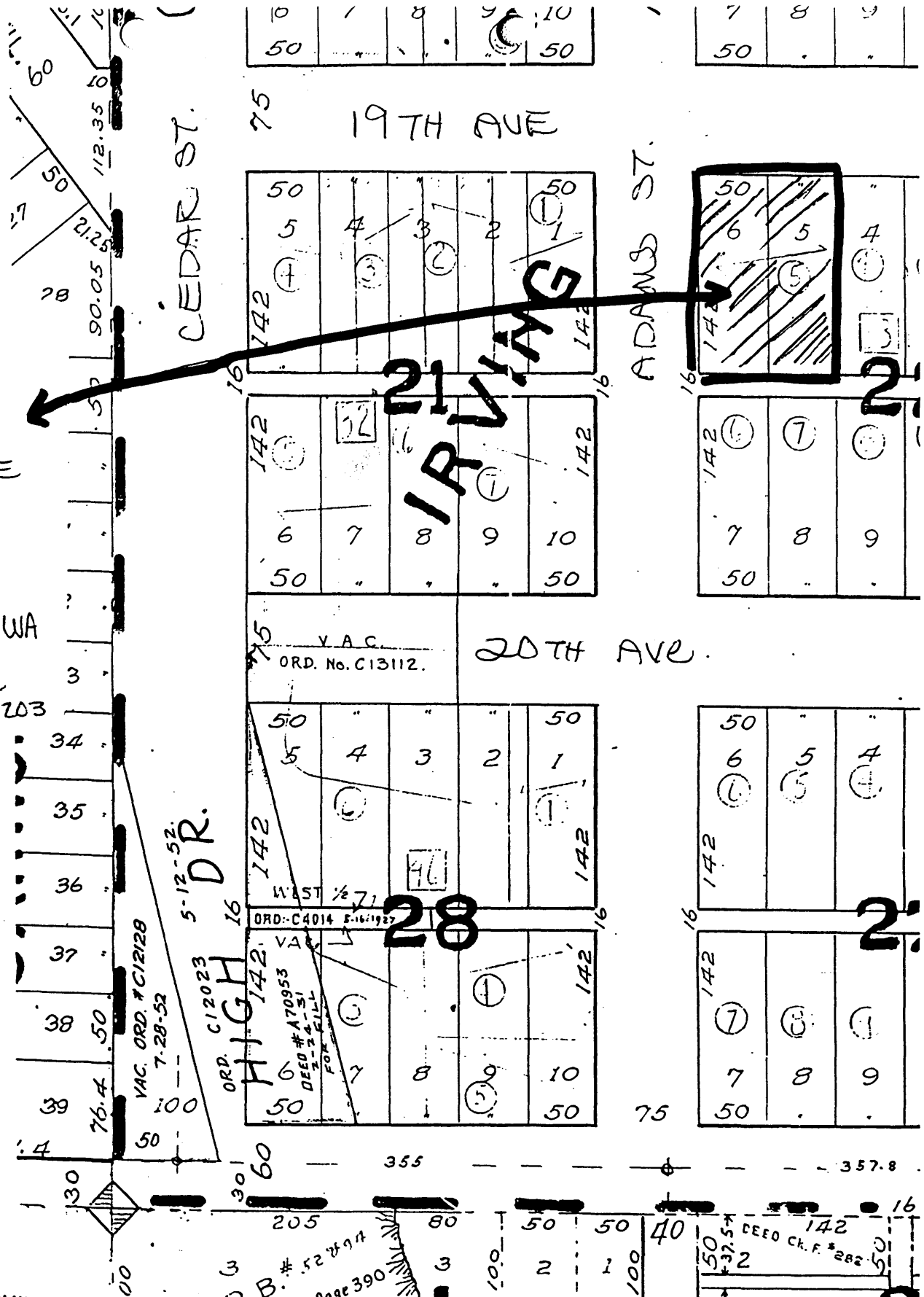
Primary highway  
hard surface  
Secondary highway  
hard surface  
Interstate

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
OR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial  
photographs taken 1982 and other sources  
This information not field checked. Map edited  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

EASTING = 407775  
NORTHING = 5275900  
WILLIAMS HOUSE, SPOKANE COUNTY, SPOKANE, WA





JAMES &  
CORRINE  
WILLIAMS  
HOUSE

Spokane  
COUNTY, WA

1225 W. 19th AVE  
Spokane, WA 99203

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
COUNTY OF

I, SADIE CLARK,  
County Clerk,  
do hereby certify that  
this is a true and correct  
copy of the original.

I, [Name],  
County Clerk,  
do hereby certify that  
this is a true and correct  
copy of the original.

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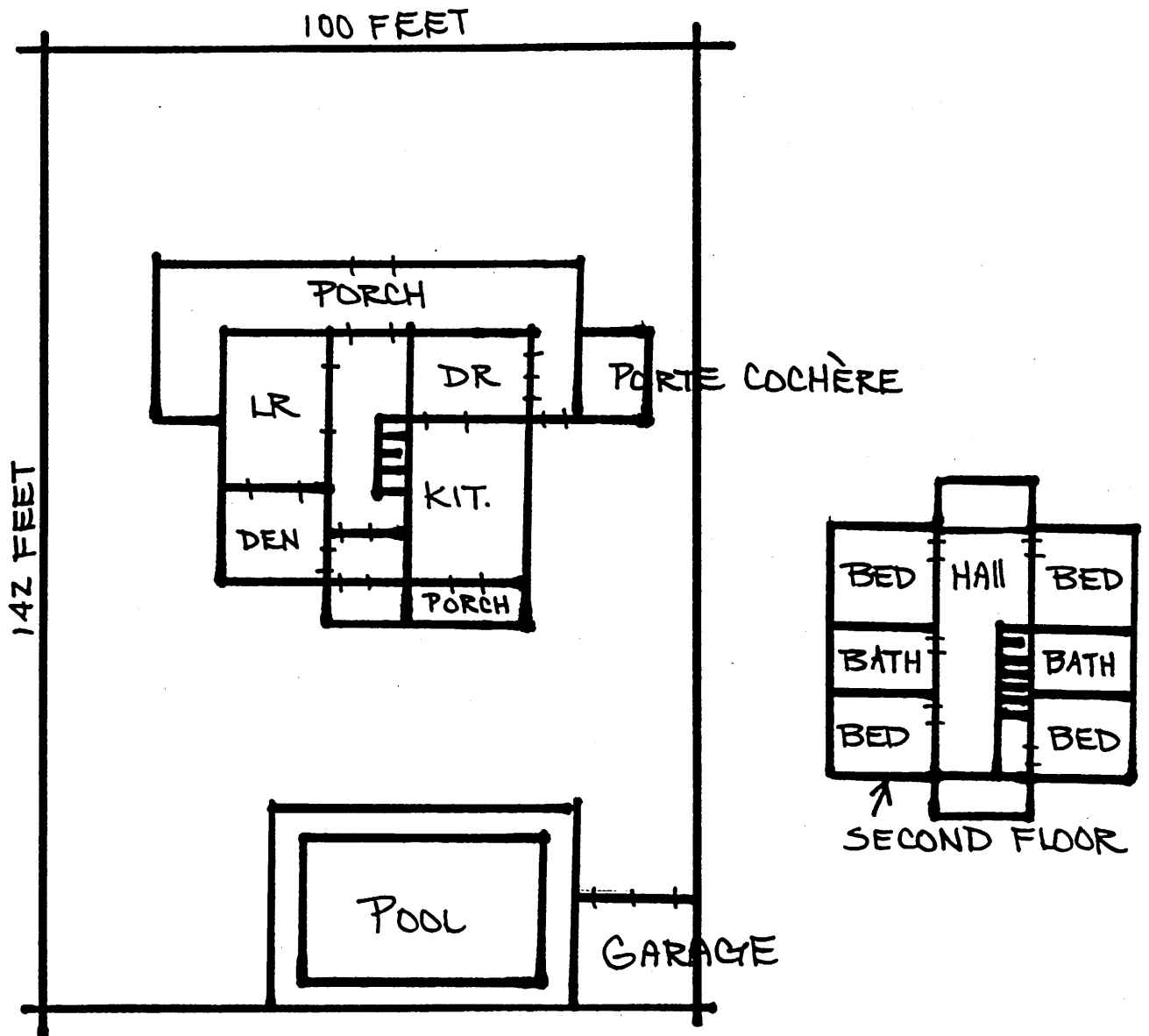
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JAMES & CORINNE WILLIAMS HOUSE  
Spokane County, Washington

Drawing

Williams House: Floor plan of house, first and second floors (not to scale). Source: Spokane County Tax Assessor records.



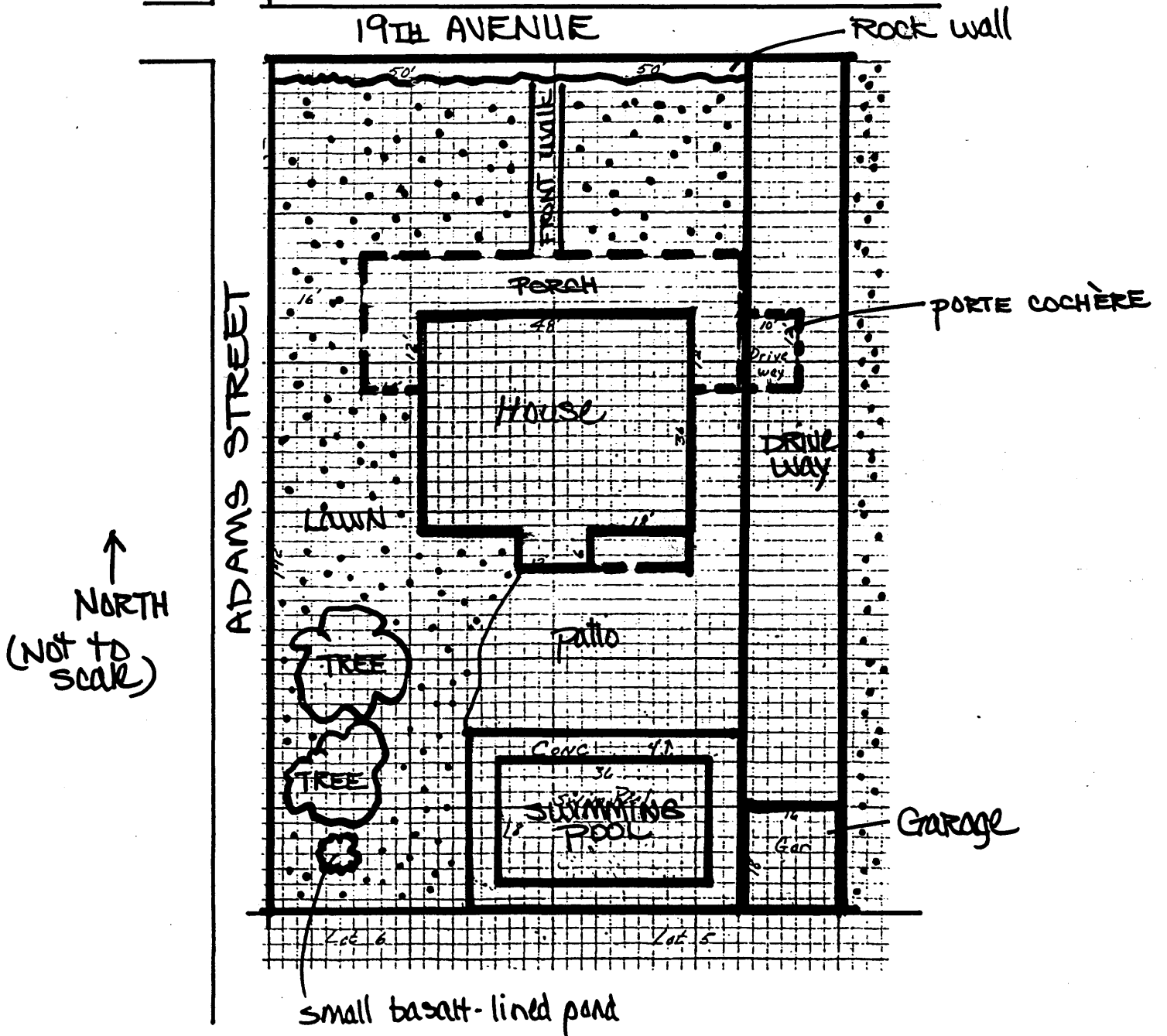
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Spokane County, Washington

Drawing Williams House: Footprint of property. Source: Spokane County Tax Assessor records.



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**James A. Williams House**  
1225 West 19th Avenue, Spokane, WA

*Photo taken in c. 1911*

# JAMES A. WILLIAMS HOUSE

1225 West 19th Avenue  
Spokane, WA

**Built in 1911**

*(photograph taken in 1914)*

