Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination

Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office, City Hall, Sixth Floor 808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201

1. Name of Property

Historic Name

MYRON & MAUD FOLSOM HOUSE

2. Location Street & Number City, State, Zip Code Parcel Number

528 E. 14th Avenue Spokane, WA 99202 35292.0121

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|--|--|--|
| X_building site structure object | public X_private both Public Acquisition in process being considered | X_occupied work in progress Accessible X_yes, restricted yes, unrestricted no | agriculturalmuseum commercialpark educationalreligious entertainment X_residential governmentscientific industrialtransportation militaryother |

4. Owner of Property Name Street & Number City, State, Zip Code Telephone Number/E-mail

Phillip W. & Patricia G. Butterfield 528 E. 14th Avenue Spokane, WA 99202 838-9599, <u>pbutter@wsu.edu</u>, <u>butterfield@wsu.edu</u>

| n |
|---------------------------|
| Spokane County Courthouse |
| 1116 West Broadway |
| Spokane, WA 99260 |
| Spokane |
| |

| 6. Representation of Existing S | Representation of Existing Surveys | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Title | City of Spokane Historic Landmarks Survey | |
| Date | Federal State County Local <u>1979</u> | |
| Location of Survey Records | Spokane Historic Preservation Office | |

Final nomination approved by SHLC on September 25, 2008

| Architectural Classification | Condition | Check One |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| (see nomination, section 8) | X_excellent | unaltered |
| | good | X_altered |
| | fair | |
| | deteriorated | Check One |
| | ruins | X original site |
| | unexposed | moved & date |

8. Spokane Register Categories and Statement of Significance

Applicable Spokane Register of Historic Places Categories: Mark "x" on one or more for the categories that qualify the property for the Spokane Register listing:

- ____A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Spokane history.
- __B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- <u>X</u> C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method or 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 history.

Narrative statement of significance is found on one or more continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography is found on one or more continuation sheets.

| 10. Geographical Data | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Acreage of Property | Less than one acre. |
| Verbal Boundary Description | NW ¹ / ₄ 29-25-43, portion of lots 10-11-12-13 Block 1 in Manito Park Addition and portion of Lots 4-5-6-7-8 in Block 1 of Replat of north ¹ / ₂ of Block 2 and Lots 1-9 in Block 1, and Lots 1-3 in Block 4 in north ¹ / ₂ of Block 3 in Manito Park Addition. |
| Verbal Boundary Justification | Nominated property includes entire parcel and urban legal description. |
| 11. Form Prepared By | |
| Name and Title | Linda Yeomans, Consultant |
| Organization | Historic Preservation Planning |
| Street, City, State, Zip Code | 501 West 27 th Avenue, Spokane, WA 99203 |
| Telephone Number | 509-456-3828 |
| Email Address | lindayeomans@comcast.net |
| Date Final Nomination Heard | 17 September 2008 |
| 12. Additional Documentation | |
| Map | City/County of Spokane current plat map. |
| Photographs and Slides | Black & white prints, CD-ROM color images. |

Signature of Owner(s) 13. Name U-Batter Ph W.Butterle Name

14. For Official Use Only

| Date Received | Attest |
|--|--|
| Date Heard 18/15/08 | City Clerk Lem Affite |
| Commission Decision | Approved as to Form |
| | Approved as to Form Assistant City Attorney Mulad Print |
| Council/Board Action Approved Date 12/15/08 | ST OF SPORT |
| | A CONTRACTOR |

We hereby certify that this property has been listed in the Spokane Register of Historic Places.

For the Mayor City of Spokane _ or

CHAIR, Spokane County Commissioners

CHAIR, Spokane City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

Kristen Higgen

OFFICER, Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Officer Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office Third Floor, City Hall, W. 808 Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Built in 1910, the Myron & Maud Folsom House is an exemplary model of the Tudor Revival tradition with cottage-like Storybook influence. The home is located at the east end of the East 400-500 terminus at Fourteenth Avenue on the South Hill in Spokane, Washington and is nearly hidden from public view on a secluded site by an irregular hilly site, metal security gate, surrounding rock walls, mature trees, and other vegetation which frame and surround the property. A designated historic landmark in Spokane, the Folsom House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing property of the Rockwood National Register Historic District in 1997. Prominent identifying features of the home's Tudor Revival style include an irregular cross-gable roof with slate shingles, false half-timbering with stucco infill, second-floor overhangs with supporting brackets, clinker brick chimneys with decorative chimney pots, and multiple tall vertical windows arranged in pairs and rows. Storybook influence at the Folsom House is expressed in the home's very private "nestled-in-the-woods" building site, irregular black basalt rock retaining walls-stairs-pathways, a recessed front entrance, and multiple prominent clipped (jerkinhead) gable peaks with widely overhanging eaves which simulate the look of thatched roof cottages. During the last 98 years, the home has undergone interior and exterior modifications but still retains a high degree of exterior and interior architectural integrity found in its original location, design, materials, workmanship, and association as a single-family residence built in the early 1900s in the Rockwood National Register Historic District on Spokane's South Hill.

CURRENT APPEARANCE & CONDITION

Site

The Folsom House and garage are built in the center of an irregular parallelogram-shaped lot at the east end of the East 400-500 terminus at Fourteenth Avenue, an architecturally prominent street in the Rockwood National Register Historic District. Characterized by a hilly landscape with multiple dips and knolls, basalt rock outcroppings, and mature trees, the lot is large and covers almost a full acre.¹ According to Spokane County Tax Assessor Records, the lot measures 254 feet at the north border, 243 feet at the east border, 132 feet at the south border, and 188 feet at the west border which fronts Fourteenth Avenue. The north border of the property terminates at the rim of a steep, vertical black basalt rock bluff which overlooks Rockwood Boulevard and provides panoramic views of Spokane through the tops of mature trees and over rooftops of homes located below the bluff. The east and south borders of the property slope downhill where they abut property lines of large estate-sized lots on which are built large, prominent historic homes. The west border of the Folsom House property abuts the east end of Fourteenth Avenue terminus and also the east edge of a lot on which a historic home built in 1935 is located. The Folsom House is in excellent condition and is framed by the property's well-maintained mature grounds which include manicured lawns; basalt rock retaining walls, steps, and pathways; rock gardens; and mature trees and shrubs.

¹ Spokane County Assessor's Records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA. The property contains 0.91 acres.

Garage (1980)

Built in 1980, a three-car garage is located beside and just west of the house by the west border of the property, and measures 36 feet wide and 38 feet deep.² A circular blacktopped driveway extends down a slope to the garage and house from the driveway's entrance at the east end of Fourteenth Avenue along the property's west border. The garage has a low-pitched gambrel roof which is covered with slate shingles, widely overhanging eaves, and is prominently clad with false half-timbering and stucco infill. At the north façade of the garage, a wide garage door opens to access for two cars while an adjacent next east garage door opens to access for a single car. The garage doors are overhanging with clipped upper corners and are decorated with false half-timbered designs. A small greenhouse was built on the rear south elevation of the garage in 1980 and measures 25 feet wide and 11 feet deep. It is covered with a low-pitched hip roof which is covered with slate shingles. Nearly hidden from public view, a covered breezeway extends from the greenhouse at the rear of the garage to the rear, south elevation of the house. The breezeway is attached to the greenhouse and the house, is covered with a hip roof of slate shingles, and is supported by thick square pillars made of clinker brick. Built just 28 years ago, the garage does not meet the 50-year age requirement for historic structures and is therefore not eligible for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places at this time.

Basalt Rock Retaining Walls, Steps, Stairways, and Gateposts (1910)

A variety of retaining walls, privacy walls, stair steps, stairways, and gateposts are located throughout the almost acre-sized property and are all made of black basalt rock, an indigenous rock found in abundance in the Spokane region. A four-foot-high basalt rock privacy wall was built when the property was developed in 1910 and rings the property at the west, north, east, and south borders. Although some are missing, soldier courses of upward-pointed rocks are located on top of the rock walls, resembling the pointed pickets of a picket fence. Due to damage, some breaks in the rock walls occur in random order at all borders of the property and also at the west border at the end of Fourteenth Avenue. At this terminus point on Fourteenth Avenue, the wall was not damaged but rather was designed to flank the driveway entrance to the Folsom House with large basalt rock gateposts which hold a wrought-iron gate. Metal lanterns with beveled glass lights are located on top of each of the two rock gateposts. The basalt rock walls, stairways, steps, pathways, and gateposts are nominated for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places.

House Exterior (1910 and 1914)

Pictured on a site plan recorded in the Spokane County Assessor's Office,³ the Folsom House has an irregular footprint which measures approximately 52 feet wide and 50 feet deep. The house was built at a slight angle to a north-south axis with the home's façade facing north/northwest. The house is one and one-half stories with an irregular cross-

² Spokane County Tax Assessor Records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

³ Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

gable roof. A prominent and distinguishing feature of the property, the roof is covered with slate shingles and is articulated with multiple jerkinhead gables, widely overhanging unenclosed eaves, and deep bargeboards. Two prominent clinker brick chimneys rise from the roof and are embellished with two pairs of decorative chimney pots (installed in 1999). Other prominent features of the home include stucco cladding, a wide use of false half-timbering with stucco infill, a single-story conservatory, and asymmetrical fenestration patterns arranged in singles, pairs, and rows of tall vertical windows with a combination of wood-sash fixed, double-hung, and casement units. The foundation is made of poured concrete and is highlighted with a veneer of clinker face bricks which are exposed above grade.

North Façade

Instead of facing west onto Fourteenth Avenue, the front of the house faces north/northwest across a broad hillside which is well-groomed with a manicured lawn, basalt rock walls and pathways, gardens, and trees. The home's north facade features a prominent full-height frontfacing projecting cross-gable with a jerkinhead gable roof, widely overhanging eaves, deep bargeboards, tongue-in-groove wood paneled soffits, a covered recessed front entrance, and a large uncovered patio/terrace which spans the full width of the house and wraps around the northwest corner to a concrete and brick stairway and recessed front entrance. A porch wall made of concrete with clinker brick, pressed brick, and slate tiles surrounds the terrace deck, which is covered with brick deck pavers (remodeled in 1998). Six brick and concrete steps rise from a blacktopped driveway to the terrace deck and the front entrance at the home's northwest The concrete and brick stairway is flanked and enclosed by an extension of the corner. brick/slate terrace wall. Griffins, which are expressed as molded concrete lions, are positioned atop the wall on either side of the stairs where the staircase joins the terrace deck. The front entrance is sheltered beneath a flared shed roof which extends forward at the first floor and is supported by decorative scroll-sawn wood brackets. The house is clad with smooth-faced stucco at the first floor and false half-timbering and stucco infill at the second floor. At the full-height projecting front-facing cross-gable, the second floor overhangs the first floor and is supported by decorative scroll-sawn brackets. A box bay with three multi-paned windows is located in the center of the wall at the first floor below the second-floor overhang. Fenestration includes multiple rows of multi-paned fixed-sash, double-hung, and casement windows at the first floor, and double-hung multi-paned windows in the gable field at the second floor.⁴

West Elevation

Although somewhat hidden from view, the west elevation of the house can be considered another primary façade as it faces west across the property's circular driveway to the driveway's entrance at the east end of the East 400-500 terminus at Fourteenth Avenue.

⁴ As recorded on Spokane County Tax Assessor records, the existing windows were installed in 1979 and replaced windows which had been installed in the 1930s-1950s. The 1930s-1950s windows are believed to have replaced the home's original double-hung and casement windows.

Only part of the home's west elevation is visible from the public right-of-way at East Fourteenth Avenue because the house is hidden from view by a combination of basalt rock privacy walls, iron gate and fence, and circular driveway which curves downhill south/southeast from the gatepost entrance to the house and garage. All of these features are located in front of the home's west elevation between the house and the street at Fourteenth Avenue.

The home's west elevation features a side-gable roof with a center projecting full-height crossgable which supports a lower single-story projecting cross-gable. The full-height projecting cross-gable is prominent with a front-facing jerkinhead gable roof, widely overhanging eaves, and deep bargeboards. At the full-height cross-gable, a lower single-story cross-gable projects forward at the first floor and is covered with a hip roof which has widely overhanging eaves, deep bargeboards, and a small shed-roof dormer which faces south from the south elevation of the hip roof. The first floor of the west elevation is clad with stucco while the second floor is clad with false half-timbering and stucco infill. Fenestration is asymmetrical and includes an original casement window in the vestibule and a combination of multi-paned casement and double-hung windows.⁵

East Elevation

The east elevation of the house is completely hidden from public view and commands a view of the home's extensive well-groomed grounds. The east elevation is dominated by an enclosed single-story porch/conservatory which was constructed after 1953 at the northeast corner of the house,⁶ and by two prominent full-height cross-gables with jerkinhead gables which are embellished with widely overhanging eaves and deep bargeboards. A shed roof covers the conservatory and unlike the c. 1910 house, has a shallow eave overhang. The second floor in the south cross-gable overhangs the first floor and is supported by scroll-sawn brackets made of wood. The walls are clad with stucco at the first floor, and with false half-timbering and stucco infill at the second floor. Fenestration includes a multi-paned sliding door in the conservatory and a combination of multi-paned double-hung, fixed-sash, and casement windows. At the southeast corner of the house, the foundation wall is exposed due to a south-facing downhill grade and is clad with a veneer of clinker face bricks.

South Elevation

The south elevation of the house is located at the rear of the property and cannot be seen from any public right-of-way. The south elevation features a prominent center projecting full-height cross-gable with a jerkinhead gable, deep bargeboards, and widely

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ A 1953 Sanborn Fire Insurance map shows the porch *unenclosed* in 1953 which means the conservatory was built after that date if the map is correct (a permit for the construction of the conservatory was not found with permits for the property so the actual construction date is unknown). It is interesting to note that the interior of the conservatory includes an antique cast-iron radiator which provided steam heat to the room, and matte-finish glazed ceramic tiles on the floor which were popular during the 1920s-1950s.

overhanging eaves. Two shed dormers are located next east of the cross-gable and have matching eave overhangs and deep bargeboards. The first floor is clad with stucco while the second floor features false half-timbering with stucco infill. A concrete deck at the first floor is attached to the south elevation at the back of the house and has an enclosed porch wall clad with stucco. The deck is supported by massive brick pillars. A small back porch encloses a back door at the back of the house. The door opens into a covered breezeway which connects the enclosed back porch to the back of the garage, west of the house. Fenestration is asymmetrical at the south elevation and includes a combination of fixed-sash, double-hung, and casement windows with multiple panes.

House Interior

According to Spokane County Tax Assessor records, the first floor of the Folsom House contains 2,354 square feet of finished space, the second floor has 1,978 square feet, and the basement has 1,978 square feet of partially finished space. The first floor has a front entrance vestibule, a center reception hall, living room, dining room, enclosed porch/conservatory, den, powder room, kitchen, butler's pantry, breakfast room, and two stairwells (main and servants'). The front door of the Folsom House is wide at 40 inches and opens into a vestibule from a recessed front porch at the northwest corner of the house. The door is made of solid wood with vertical paneling and features a stained-glass window (circa 1980s) in the upper half of the door. Original c. 1910 brass hardware is retained on the door, including hinges, door handle, door knob, and escutcheon plate. The vestibule has a wood parquet floor (1980s) and a ceiling mural which features deer, birds, flowers, and garlands (c. 1940s). A pendant drop chandelier made of brass hangs from the center of the mural. An original wood-sash casement window opens west from the vestibule and contains a circa 1980s stained-glass light. The vestibule opens into a center reception hall which is dominated by a formal open staircase. The staircase has a closed stringer, a turned mahogany Newel post, and turned balusters which are capped with a mahogany hand rail. The staircase has two steps which ascend to a landing, then turn 90 degrees and rise to the second floor. The treads and landing are made of oak, and the bottom step at the landing curves outward around the Newel post which is anchored to the curved stair tread.

The reception hall leads north through multi-paned French doors to a large living room along the north wall, east to a formal dining room along the east wall, southwest to a small den along the west wall, and south to a kitchen/pantry/breakfast room at the back of the house. As noted on original plans for the Folsom House, the living room measures 18 feet wide and 30 feet long.⁷ It is articulated with rows of multi-paned windows along the north and west walls and a focal-point fireplace at the east wall. The fireplace features Colonial Revival styling with fluted pilasters which support a plain mantel. French doors with multi-paned lights flank the fireplace and open east into an enclosed porch/conservatory. The conservatory is illuminated by rows of multi-paned vertical

⁷ Hyslop, W. W. and Fred Westcott. *The Inland Empire Architect, Vol. 1, No. 1.* Spokane: Hyslop & Westcott Architects, 1911.

windows along the north and east walls. The floor is covered with two-inch-square matte-finish glazed ceramic tile with colors of mottled gray, tan, taupe, and gold. From the sunroom, multipaned French doors open south into a formal dining room. The dining room measures 17 feet wide and 20 feet long and is illuminated by rows of vertical multi-paned windows on the east and south walls. The vestibule, center reception hall, living room, and dining room are all finished with original lathe-and-plaster construction and have nine-foot ceilings, oak hardwood floors, prominent white-painted woodwork with eight-inch floor and crown molding, and multiple sets of multi-paned French doors. The oak floors in the living and dining rooms are embellished with strips of walnut inlay which outline the perimeter of both rooms. The inlaid walnut strips meet at mitered corners to form intersecting geometric designs of multiple squares.

The reception hall leads southwest to a small den with an adjoining powder room in the southwest corner of the first floor. The den features a focal-point fireplace, which like the fireplace in the living room, is finished with Colonial Revival-style features. These features include two pairs of engaged round columns which support a plain mantel. Decorative raised panels with wreaths and garlands are found between the mantel and firebox. The firebox is rectangular-shaped and is outlined by a glazed ceramic tile surround with a matte finish. The hearth is covered with matching matte-finish glazed ceramic tiles, which with the surround tiles, are colored in hues of gray, taupe, and tan. The floor is made of oak, the ceilings are nine feet high, and the woodwork is painted white, matching the original woodwork in the vestibule, reception hall, living room, and dining room. A door on the south wall of the den opens to a small powder room. An original wood-sash casement window with an original wood-sash screen opens south from the powder room. The original glazing was replaced in the 1980s with a stained glass light in the window.

The center reception hall at the first floor also leads south to the back of the house where a kitchen, breakfast room, back entry, and c. 1910 butler's pantry are located. Recently remodeled in 1991,⁸ the kitchen area features oak floors, built-in cupboards and cabinets, a center island, and updated plumbing and lighting fixtures and systems. The butler's pantry is original and features original built-in china and silver service cupboards, a serving countertop area, and built-in banks of wide drawers specifically designed to hold linens and cutlery. An original paneled door with a small "butler's window" opens from the butler's pantry directly into the dining room.

The second floor of the Folsom House is finished with three bedrooms, a laundry room (added in 1914 as an open-air sleeping porch)⁹, two bathrooms, a center hall, and two staircases—one open formal staircase and one enclosed narrow staircase which was designed for use by domestic help. The floor is made of fir, the ceiling is eight feet high, the walls and ceiling are original lathe-and-plaster construction, and the woodwork is

⁸ Spokane County Tax Assessor Records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

⁹ Spokane City building permit # 5682, dated 12 Aug 1914. Spokane City Hall, Spokane, WA.

painted white like the woodwork on the first floor. The master bedroom (north wall) retains its original footprint with two closets, an *en suite* bathroom, and an alcove along the east wall. A small fireplace with a copper and zinc hood is located in the center east wall of the alcove. The basement of the Folsom House is partially finished with a recreation room, guest bedrooms, two bathrooms, storage space, and a mechanical room for heating and other systems.

ORIGINAL APPEARANCE & SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS

Circa 1910-1912 photographs and c. 1910 house plans of the property picture the original appearance and footprint of the Folsom House which was built in 1910.¹⁰ The appearance of the Folsom House today is a near match to the c. 1910 original exterior design and interior floor plans as pictured in the above-noted photographs and drawings, including original exterior colors (dark brown for false half-timbering and trim, white or crème used for stucco walls and stucco infill). Modifications to the Folsom House include the following:

- 1914 A small shed roof dormer was added to the rear southeast corner of the south elevation of the house as an open-air sleeping porch (Spokane building permit #5682, dated 12 Aug 1914).
- **1930s-1950s** Except for two original casement windows, all of the home's original c. 1910 casement and 1/1 double-hung windows were replaced with multi-paned wood-sash units (see 1961 Spokane County Tax Assessor's photo).
- *1950s* Northeast corner of house at terrace enclosed with shed-roof conservatory at first floor.
- **1942** As recorded on Spokane building permit #67720, dated 1 April 1942, "roof reshingled" with wood shingles (noted as "shakes" on Spokane County Tax Assessor records).
- 1979 All windows in house replaced with new multi-paned wood-sash, doublehung, fixed, and casement units (these replaced 1930s-1950s units). House interior rewired, replumbed, insulated, repainted, recarpeted. All but three original cast-iron radiators removed and replaced with baseboard-style radiators. Basement remodeled and finished with bedrooms, bathrooms, recreation room, etc. Circa 1914 second-floor sleeping porch remodeled as laundry room. Black wrought iron security gate installed at entrance to driveway (permit #B26118).

¹⁰ Hyslop, W. W. and Fred Westcott. *The Inland Empire Architect, Vol. 1, No. 1.* Spokane: Hyslop & Westcott Architects, 1911.

- **1980** Wood deck installed at back of house, back porch enclosed, three-car garage built beside house at site of original garage, greenhouse and breezeway built behind garage and house.
- **1991** Kitchen remodeled with original butler's pantry retained. Existing breakfast room was originally designed in 1910 as a powder room and was remodeled for use a breakfast room in kitchen. Copper rain gutters and down spouts installed.
- *1998* North elevation terrace enlarged and remodeled.
- *1999* Both chimneys repaired and remodeled with glazed ceramic decorative chimney pots made in England.
- 2000 House re-roofed with Vermont black slate shingles.
- 2007 Second floor re-carpeted.

Even with the above-listed exterior modifications, the Folsom House retains a high degree of exterior architectural integrity in original location, design, materials, workmanship, and association as an early 20th-century single-family home built in the Rockwood National Register Historic District.

Area of Significance Period of Significance Built Date Architect Architecture 1910-1958 1910 W. W. Hyslop

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary Statement

Built in 1910, the Myron & Maude Folsom House is a particularly fine example of the Tudor Revival style with strong Storybook influence. Reminiscent of cottages that are clustered in valleys and hamlets throughout the English countryside, the Folsom House is articulated with prominent false half-timbering and multiple clipped jerkinhead gables, widely overhanging eaves, and deep bargeboards that simulate the look of thatched roof cottages. Sited with a commitment to privacy, the home is secluded at a wooded site and is only partially visible on a hilly acre-sized view lot at the end of the East 400-500 terminus at Fourteenth Avenue in Spokane, Washington. The property is located in the Rockwood National Register Historic District on Spokane's South Hill and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997 as a contributing resource and designated historic landmark of the historic district. The Folsom House was designed by one of Spokane's most noteworthy and accomplished pioneer architects, W. W. Hyslop, and was featured in The Inland Empire Architect, Volume 1, which was penned and published in 1911 by Hyslop and his business partner, Fred Westcott. The journal pictured a prominent photograph of the house, drawings of the home's floor plans, and a description of the property which described the Folsom House as a "model residence" with a "carefully studied" interior and exterior. Hyslop further explained that the private building site, with its panoramic view of the city and distant mountain peaks, was "one of the best view locations in the city" and that the "house fits in with the beautiful landscape admirably."¹¹ The property was custom-designed and built for Myron Archer Folsom and his wife, Maud Wadsworth Folsom, who lived at the property for seven years from 1910 to 1917 during the zenith of Myron Folsom's professional career in Spokane. A civic leader, pioneer lawyer, and prominent professional litigator in Spokane during the late 1890s and early 1900s, Myron Folsom was featured in The History of the City of Spokane & Spokane Country, which was authored by acclaimed Northwest historian, N. W. Durham. Durham reported that Folsom was "important...in the field of corporation law," was "particularly well-known in connection with litigation of different mining companies," and rose to a level of prominence in the legal profession which "made him a practitioner before all the state and federal courts upon the Pacific coast."¹² During its period of significance from 1910 to 1958, the Folsom House achieved importance in the area of significance, "architecture," as a noteworthy example of the Tudor Revival style

¹¹ Hyslop, W. W. and Fred Westcott. *The Inland Empire Architect, Vol. 1, No. 1.* Spokane: Hyslop & Westcott Architects, 1911, p. 8.

¹² Durham, N. W. *The History of the City of Spokane & Spokane Country, WA, Vol. 2.* Spokane: Clarke Publishing, 1912, p. 268.

with Storybook influence and as a product of W. W. Hsylop, master architect. Architecturally significant, the house and black basalt rock walls, stairs, pathways, and gateposts are nominated to the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Category C.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The Rockwood National Register Historic District

From 1900 to about 1920, Spokane experienced a building boom that spread throughout the city and extended up and over a massive basalt bluff which runs west, east, and southeast along Seventh and Eighth Avenues and part of Rockwood Boulevard at the base of Spokane's South Hill. Neighborhoods were planned, platted, and eventually developed on plateaus that overlook the city atop the basalt bluff. One of these residential areas was the Rockwood National Register Historic District, the only neighborhood in Spokane designed by the nationally acclaimed Olmsted Brothers Landscape Architects, the same firm that designed Boston's park system, the grounds for the Chicago 1893 World Exposition, and New York City's Central Park.

Beginning in the early 1900s, real estate developers Jay P. Graves and his brother Frank Graves, and real estate mogul, Fred B. Grinnell, began developing the Olmsted-designed Rockwood neighborhood. By the end of 1909, home sites in the area were being actively marketed. Advertisements announcing contracts for paving, tree planting, and water and sewer lines alternated with news of the latest purchases and upcoming homes in real estate sections of Spokane newspapers. A November 28, 1905 promotional advertisement in the *Spokesman-Review* proclaimed the Rockwood neighborhood to be a "strictly high-class residence district...the only exclusive home section of the city where a man who builds a fine home may have every advantage and all possible protection from every objectionable feature that surrounds the ordinary residential district."¹³ Another article printed on January 30, 1910 reported that "Rockwood...promises to be one of the most beautiful additions to the city."¹⁴ Six months later on June 12, 1910, a third article reported further on-going residential development in the Rockwood neighborhood:

That Rockwood, the new high-class residence section put on the local market last year, is destined to be built up with costly homes as was originally planned when the F. B. Grinnell company put the property on the market, seems to be assured in the extensive plans already under way for building this year, and in the houses already being built in the addition.¹⁵

¹³ "Rockwood: Distinctly Different Are All the Features That Make Rockwood the Strictly High-Class Residence District." *Spokesman-Review*, 28 Nov 1905.

¹⁴ "Parking System Which Will Make Rockwood Most Beautiful Part of City." *Spokesman-Review*, 30 Jan 1910.

¹⁵ "Spend \$200,000 for Fine Homes." Spokesman-Review, 12 June 1910, part 4, p. 1.

The year 1910 proved to be a banner year for the development of the Rockwood National Register Historic District and paved the way for further development in 1911. An article printed in the *Spokesman-Review* on April 2, 1911 reported the following:

While the last year [1910] has seen a remarkable transformation in the [Rockwood National Register Historic District] property, converting it from a rustic wilderness to a well-improved modern addition, the next year promises to develop a home addition in Spokane which will give it a rank with the older cities of the country. The addition is attracting attention because of the fact that it is one...of the first attempts to create a high-class addition in Spokane. The Fred B. Grinnell Company expects to put about \$500,000 into the property in various improvements.

The article proved true when streetcar lines, street lamps, sidewalks, curbside trees, and eventually a school were built in the area. Neighborhood amenities were plentiful and the curvilinear tree-lined streets and hillside lots were being noticed by potential buyers. Sixteen homes were completed in 1911 in the Rockwood neighborhood, more than twice the figure for 1910, more than 20 more homes were finished in 1912, and by the late 1930s, the majority of houses in the neighborhood had been erected. Domestic architectural styles ranged from large Neoclassical, Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, and Mediterranean-inspired designs to smaller Tudor-style cottages, Craftsman bungalows, and vernacular dwellings. Houses were built from designs prepared by architects, builders, and from plans distributed in plan books. The homes were constructed by independent contractors who were hired by developers, architects, and property owners. Built in 1910 at the end of a cul-de-sac on a secluded acre-sized lot with panoramic views of the city and Mt. Spokane, the Folsom House was one of the first homes erected in the Rockwood National Register Historic District and is one of a few homes built along the terminus at the 400-500 block of East Fourteenth Avenue.

The Folsom House

On April 4, 1910, Myron Folsom, a prominent Spokane lawyer and litigator, purchased almost a full acre of land at the end of the East 400-500 terminus on Fourteenth Avenue between Latawah Street and Rockwood Boulevard on Spokane's South Hill. With unobstructed north views of Spokane and distant mountain peaks, the land was located at the rim of a high basalt bluff which stood above the west edge of Rockwood Boulevard. Seemingly "nestled in the woods," the building site was secluded at the east end of Fourteenth Avenue and was characterized by an irregular hilly terrain full of dips and knolls, rocky basalt outcroppings, rocky pathways, trees, and shrubs. Frank Graves, the Rockwood neighborhood developer who sold the lot to Folsom, lived in a large estate-sized home and grounds which he built and developed in 1906 on adjacent secluded acreage at 515 E. 16th Avenue, ¹⁶ just southeast of Folsom's newly purchased building

¹⁶ The Frank Graves House is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing property of the Rockwood National Register Historic District.

site. With his wife Maud Wadsworth Folsom, Myron Folsom commissioned prominent Spokane architect, W. W. Hyslop (former partner of Spokane architect C. Ferris White who designed the house for Frank Graves) to custom design a home for the new view site. Construction commenced immediately and the house was finished in 1910. Hyslop must have been proud of the residence and his design for it because in his 1911 architectural journal, *The Inland Empire Architect*, he prominently featured the Folsom House with a photograph and house plans. A caption under the photograph read:

Residence of Mr. Myron Folsom, Rockwood Boulevard¹⁷

One of the best view locations in the city, this house fits in with the beautiful landscape admirably. The interior has been as carefully studied as the exterior and the result of the whole is most satisfactory—a model residence.¹⁸

The Folsom House was also featured in a promotional advertisement brochure published in circa 1912 by the Fred B. Grinnell Company, the real estate agent who worked with the developers of the Rockwood neighborhood. A photograph of the house pictured the home's east elevation and surrounding landscaped grounds with the following caption:

Myron Folsom's Residence Fourteenth Avenue and Rockwood Boulevard

W. W. Hyslop, Architect¹⁹

When the Folsom House was built, protective neighborhood subdivision covenants were in place which helped guide the design and construction of the style and quality of the property. Initiated in 1903 by the developers of the Rockwood neighborhood, the covenants made the following conditions:

- A residence shall cost at least \$1,500 when built on the lot,
- A residence shall be of "modern style of architecture,"
- No "outhouse or barn shall be erected and used as a dwelling before the construction of the main dwelling house,"

¹⁷ Hyslop listed the home at Rockwood Boulevard in 1911. The address given by the United State Post Office for the property was first recorded as 522 E. 14th Avenue, then corrected to 528 E. 14th Avenue. Although the property does not have a Rockwood Boulevard address, it does border a high bluff which rises steeply from the west edge of Rockwood Boulevard and it is located in the Rockwood neighborhood which is called the Rockwood National Register Historic District.

¹⁸ Hyslop & Westcott, p. 8.

¹⁹ Grinnell, Fred B. *Some Rockwood Homes Completed and Under Construction*. Circa 1912-14. MAC archive number L84-159.19-4, Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, Spokane, WA.

• "No building erected on said lot shall be used for business purposes of any kind."²⁰

The restrictive covenants and conditions were written to protect the neighborhood with the assurance that each home would be architecturally compatible with one another and that a high degree of architectural quality would be maintained. The idea worked as evidenced by the neighborhood's physical and documented history as the home of some of Spokane's most architecturally significant residences, most socially prominent citizens, and as a landmark historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Myron Archer Folsom and Maud Levina Wadsworth Folsom

Relocated to Spokane from San Francisco, Myron Archer Folsom was a civic leader, pioneer lawyer, and well-known professional litigator in Spokane during the late 1890s and early 1900s. His accomplishments were noted in Northwest historian N. W. Durham's The History of the City of Spokane & Spokane Country in 1912 which described Folsom as a prominent Spokane lawyer who was "important...in the field of corporation law," was "particularly well-known in connection with litigation of different mining companies," and rose to prominence in his legal profession which "made him a practitioner before all the state and federal courts upon the Pacific coast."²¹ Durham applauded Folsom for his knowledge of the law which was "comprehensive" with "deductions logical," and "while in the application of a legal principle," displayed "marked discernment" with arguments that were "characterized by a perspicuity...[that left]...no one at sea as to his meaning."²² Finally, Durham gave Myron Folsom the highest praise when he wrote that Folsom was a "representative of our best type of American manhood, and his genuine worth, broad mind, and public spirit have made him a director of public thought and action. His influence is felt as a strong, steady, moving force in the social, moral, and legal movements of the [Spokane] community."²³ Myron & Maud Folsom lived in the Folsom House at 528 E. Fourteenth Avenue for seven years from 1910 to 1917 during which time Myron Folsom rose to the pinnacle of his career in Spokane. In 1918, Myron & Maud Folsom sold the Folsom House and moved back to San Francisco.

Subsequent Owners

In 1918, the Folsom House was purchased by John A. & Luta Reinhardt, noted "Spokane pioneers"²⁴ who owned, operated, and managed the Spokane agency for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Reinhardt's office was

²⁰ Spokane Warranty Deed 117208, book 163, page 313, dated 31 Mar 1905. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

²¹ Durham, N. W. *The History of the City of Spokane & Spokane Country, WA, Vol. 2.* Spokane: Clarke Publishing, 1912, p. 268.

²² Ibid, p. 269.

²³ Ibid, p. 269.

²⁴ "John G. Reinhardt Claimed by Death." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 27 Jan 1971.

known as J. A. Reinhardt & Associates and was located in the Exchange Bank Building and then in the Paulsen Building in downtown Spokane. A special colored full-page advertisement in the *1920 Spokane City Directory* made the following insurance company claims:

Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company J. A. Reinhardt, General Agent

Almost half of the new insurance issued by the Northwestern each year is on lives already insured in the Company. The applications for this insurance represent so many signed testimonials of complete satisfaction on the part of our Policyholders.

Being a purely Mutual Company, all savings belong to the policyholders and are returned to them in 'dividends.' The dividends paid by this Company in 1918 on Annual Dividend Policies...were greater in amount than those paid by any other Company in the world REGARDLESS OF SIZE.²⁵

John & Luta Reinhardt lived in the Folsom House for 23 years until 1941, at which time they sold the property for \$18,000 to Madeline C. Coman, widow of Wilbur E. Coman. Madeline Coman shared the home with her son Edmund A. Coman, his wife, Beulah Bishop Coman, and their three children Elizabeth Ann, Mary Zan, and Edmund Z Coman, Jr. A successful businessman, Edmund Coman worked in sales and marketing at different times for the Admiral Appliance & Home Radio Company and the General Electric Company in Spokane. Socially and professionally prominent, Edmund Coman and his wife, Beulah Coman, were noted for their active participation in business groups and civic leadership in the Spokane region. Beulah Coman served terms as president and vice president of the Spokane Junior League, was a founder of the organization's "Well Baby Clinic,"²⁶ and in 1956-57, lent her name to Coman Hall, a women's residence dormitory, which was built by and named after the Coman family at Washington State University. After her husband's death in 1957, Beulah Coman moved to the La Casa Apartments at Seventh & Bernard, and in 1964, purchased the Hayes House-just a few doors west of the Folsom House at 1329 S. Ferris Court. During this time she leased the Folsom House to Billie & James Ivory, a lumber broker for Quiki-Tree Products in Spokane.

In 1973, Beulah Coman sold the Folsom House for \$59,000 to Susan & Arthur Paul Rosenau, a musician and music teacher who taught instruction for piano and organ at Music City in downtown Spokane. The Rosenaus sold the property one year later for \$69,000 to Jacqueline & Robert Cannon, a general manager/insurance agent for New

²⁵ 1920 Spokane City Directory, p. 36. All capitalization in above-noted quote as printed in 1920 advertisement.

²⁶ "Beulah Coman, Obituary." Spokesman-Review, 11 Feb 1998, p. D:9.

York Life Insurance Company. In 1978, Canadians Dallas & Mary Ann Hawkins bought the Folsom House for \$135,000, and in 1989, sold it to David & Mary Elizabeth Coombs, a couple who together represented two of Spokane's most socially prominent families. David Coombs was the son of the Very Reverend Richard Coombs, Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, who married the couple. Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Coombs was the daughter of George Frederick & Mary Jewett Jr., principals of the Weyerhauser Lumber Company in Washington State. In 2007, educators Phillip & Patricia Butterfield purchased the Folsom House for \$1,150,000. Patricia Butterfield, PhD, RN, FAAN, is Professor and Dean of the Washington State University Intercollegiate College of Nursing in Spokane. Phillip Butterfield, PhD, is an associate research professor of civil and environmental engineering at WSU-Spokane.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Category C

Category C of the Spokane Register of Historic Places refers to properties that are significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork. "To be eligible" for register listing under Category C, "a property must meet at least one of the following requirements:"²⁷

- Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction
- Represent the work of a master
- Possess high artistic value

Embodying distinctive characteristics of the Tudor Revival style with Storybook influence, the Folsom House is architecturally significant and is nominated to the Spokane Register under Category C.

Tudor Revival Style & Storybook Influence

Whether expressed as a grand baronial manor house or a small cozy cottage, the Tudor Revival style is one of America's best-loved architectural traditions. The style is a revival of architectural forms, features, and designs made popular during the 16th-century reign of the Tudors, an English royal family descended from Sir Owen Tudor, a Welshman who married Catherine of Valois, widow of Henry V. The English Tudor style was adopted throughout the British Isles and developed during the reigns of Queen Elizabeth (1558-1603) and of James I (1603-1625), reaching a period that fostered the construction of many of England's great manor houses.

The *American* Tudor Revival style borrowed architectural elements from the English Tudor tradition and enjoyed widespread popularity throughout the United States from about 1890 to 1940.²⁸ Early American examples tended to be architect-designed

²⁷ Bulletin #15, p. 18.

²⁸ McAlester, Lee & Virginia. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Knopf, 1989, p. 355.

landmarks that resembled English manor houses. Three examples in Spokane include the Glover Mansion (built in 1889 at 321 W. Eighth Avenue), the Campbell House (built in 1897 at 2316 W. First Avenue), and the Frank D. Gibbs House (831 E. Rockwood Blvd) which was designed and built in 1913 by W. W. Hyslop, the architect of the Folsom House. These rambling. asymmetrically massed mansions typically featured steeply pitched cross-gabled roofs, steeply pitched front facing gables, recessed entrances, brick-stone-stucco cladding, decorative halftimbering with stucco-stone-brick infill, overhangs and oriels, massive chimneys with crowned chimney pots, castle-like castellations, and long rows of casement windows. By the early 20th century the Tudor Revival style was adapted to the middle-class suburban house, sometimes with a romantic Hansel & Gretel "storybook" kind of appeal, and became a popular affordable home especially built in the 1920s and 1930s. Storybook influence was expressed in architectural features that provided rhythm and whimsy with curved "catslide" roofs, widely overhanging eaves and clipped gable peaks that simulated the look of English cottage thatched roofs, and an artificially aged appearance with stone and clinker brick cladding, chimneys, privacy and retaining walls, garden steps and stairs, and gateposts.

The Folsom House embodies elements of the Tudor Revival style with Storybook influence which is found in various architectural features and in the home's irregular, secluded building site which renders the property nearly hidden from public view, a "a storybook house in the woods." Prominent Tudor Revival and Storybook features at the Folsom House include:

- Built date between 1890 and 1940
- Asymmetrical massing
- Steeply pitched cross-gabled roof
- Front-facing clipped jerkinhead gable peaks (simulating the look of thatched roofs)
- Widely overhanging eaves
- Prominent bargeboards
- Recessed front entrance
- False half-timbering with stucco infill
- Massive clinker brick chimney with decorative chimney pots
- Multiple rows of tall casement windows
- Black basalt rock privacy walls, retaining walls, steps, pathways, and gateposts
- Secluded "nestled in the woods" building site

While the exterior of the Folsom House is a strong statement of Storybook Tudor Revival styling, the interior depicts a more Colonial Revival-style theme with prominent white painted woodwork, a formal grand center reception hall staircase with turned balusters and Newel post, and prominent fireplaces with pilasters, columns, and panels of wreaths and garlands.

W. W. Hyslop, Architect (1867-1917)

Born in 1867 and raised on a farm in Minnesota, William Wallace Hyslop was educated as an architect at Columbia University in New York and came to Spokane at the turn of the century, beginning his architectural practice in 1901. He practiced alone and also partnered at different times with various Spokane architects, including C. Harvey Smith (from 1901 to 1904), C. Ferris White (1905-1906), and Fred Westcott (1911-1916). Hyslop's designs are comparable to those rendered by Spokane's most noted architects and were described by his son, Robert Hyslop, a Spokane structural engineer, as particularly innovative in style, quality, and durability.²⁹ Hylsop worked in Spokane from 1901 to his untimely and premature death at age 50 in 1917, and was responsible for the designs of hundreds of homes and many apartment buildings built throughout the region. His designs for domestic architecture span a wide spectrum of styles and sizes from large, rambling mansions to luxury apartment houses, to small affordable bungalows. A few exceptional examples of his work, designed specifically for well-to-do homeowners, include large homes such as the American Foursquare-detailed Charles & Frances Richardson House (1226 N. Summit Boulevard), the Arts & Crafts-inspired Waldo & Louise Paine House (2509 W. Summit Boulevard), the Neoclassical-style Odell House (508 E. Rockwood Boulevard), the Tudor Revival-style Frank Gibbs House (821 E. Rockwood Boulevard), the Mission-style J. J. Kaiser House (1115 S. Grand-demolished), the contemporary-looking A. E. Grant House (605 E. Rockwood Boulevard), and the Storybook Tudor Revival-style Myron Folsom House at 528 E. Fourteenth Avenue. Apartment houses Hyslop designed include the Marlboro, Avenida, and Elm Apartments, all located in Browne's Addition. Compared to his vast work, Hyslop's design for the Folsom House is one of his best expressed in the Tudor Revival style with Storybook influence. After nearly a century, W. W. Hyslop's domestic designs have proved to be some of the finest in Spokane, possessing high artistic values and representing the work of an accomplished professional architect.

Summary

Built in 1910 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997 as a contributing property of the Rockwood National Register Historic District, the Folsom House is architecturally significant in the area of significance, "architecture," as an excellent example of the Tudor Revival style with Storybook influence and as an excellent example of the work of accomplished professional pioneer architect, W. W. Hyslop. The Folsom House, rock retaining walls, rock privacy walls, rock steps, rock pathways, and rock gateposts are nominated to the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Category C.

²⁹ Personal interview with Robert Hyslop, son of W. W. Hyslop, 1999-2000.

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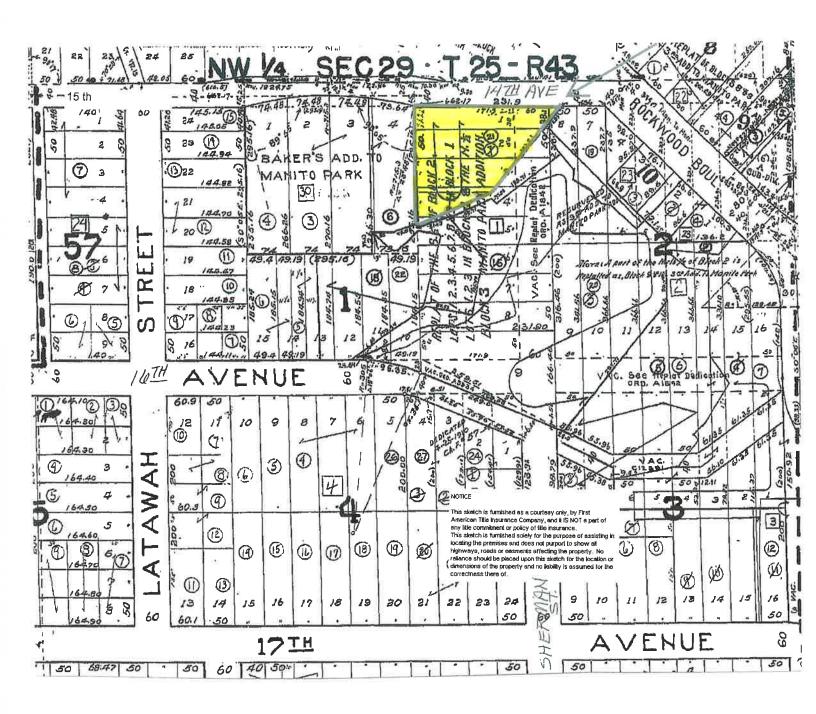
Newspaper Articles

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- "Cathedral Wedding—Childhood Dream Comes True." Spokane Daily Chronicle, 12 Dec 1984.
- "Edmund Z. Coman, Obituary." Spokane Daily Chronicle, 20 Aug 1957.
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"Wedding Bells." Spokane Daily Chronicle, 11 Dec 1984, p. 39.

PLAT MAP

Spokane County, 2008



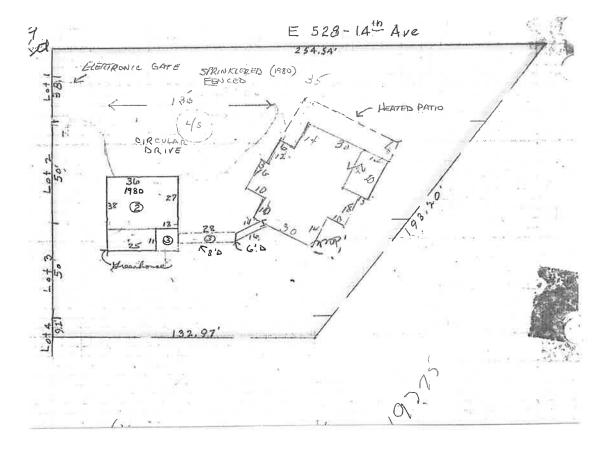
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SITE PLAN

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Spokane County Tax Assessor's Records

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HISTORIC PHOTO

Circa 1910-1911 photo of north elevation of house.



| Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination | Continuation Sheet |
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| MYRON & MAUD FOLSOM HOUSE | Section 10 |

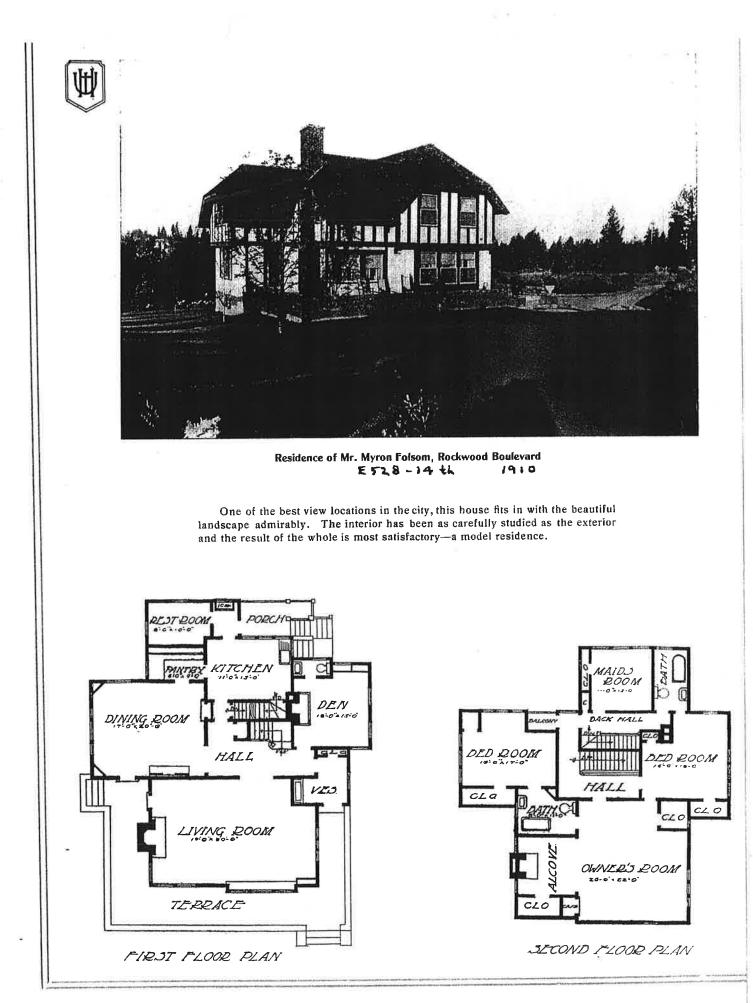
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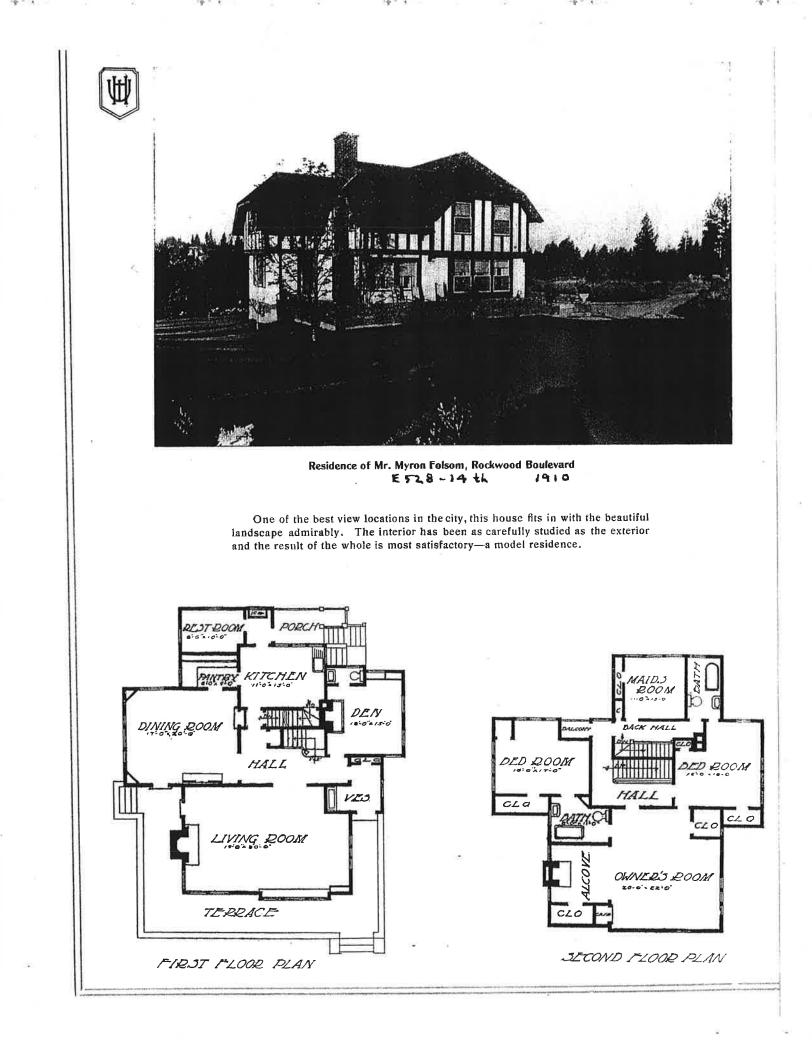
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| House plans | Original plans for house and photograph from circa |
|-------------|--|
| | 1910-1911. |
| | Reference: Hyslop, W. W. & F. Westcott. The |
| | Inland Empire Architect, Vol. 1, No. 1. Spokane, |
| | 1911. |

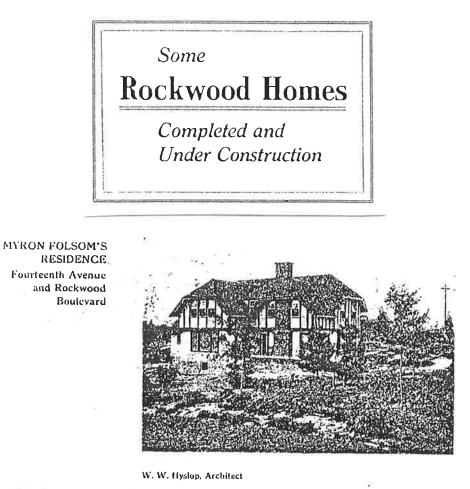
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HISTORIC PHOTO

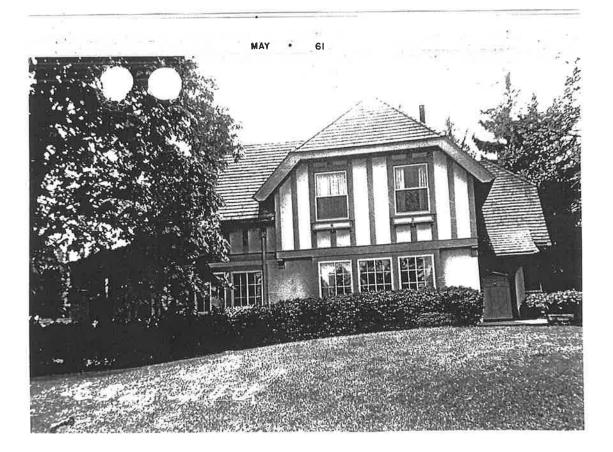
Photo in "Some Rockwood Homes Completed and Under Construction." C. 1912. View of east elevation with brick chimney.



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HISTORIC PHOTO

Spokane County Tax Assessor photo, c. 1961



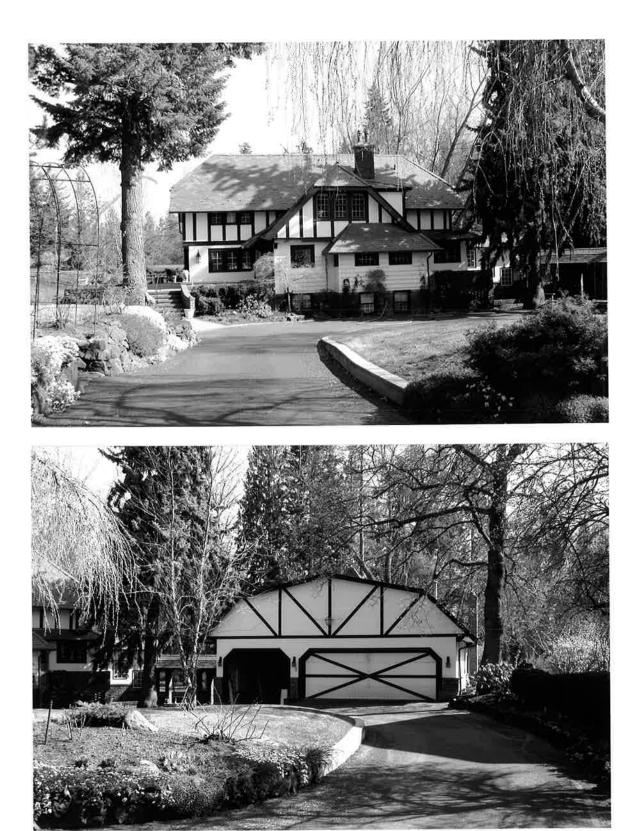
Photos 1 and 2

View looking southeast from 14th Avenue of property in 2008.



Photos 3 and 4

View of north façade of garage and west elevation of house in 2008.



Photos 5 and 6

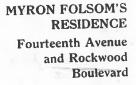
View of north façade of house in 2008, and east elevation in 2008.

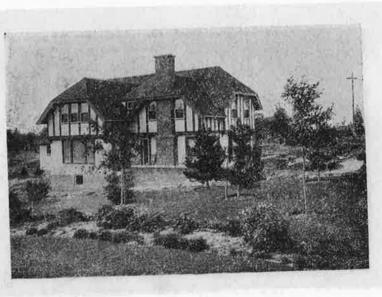




Photos 7 and 8

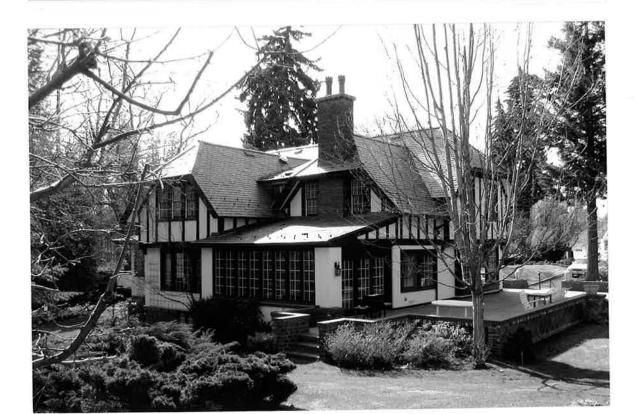
View of northeast corner and mostly east elevation of house in circa 1910-1912, and also in 2008.





W. W. Hyslop, Architect

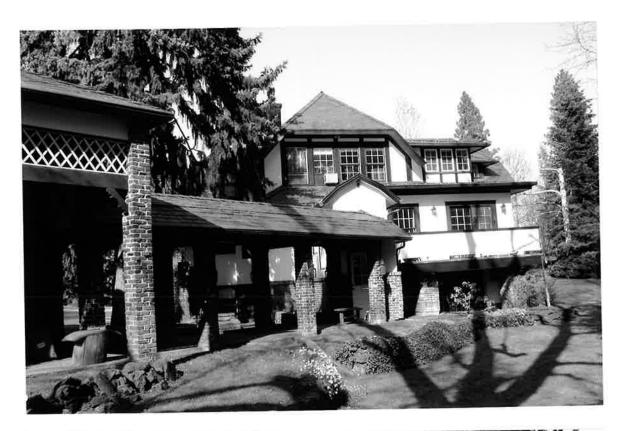
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Photos 9 and 10

View of south elevation of house in 2008, and southeast corner of breezeway and garage in 2008.

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Photos 11 and 12

Front door of house in 2008 and center reception hall at first floor in 2008.





Photos 13 and 14

Ceiling mural in vestibule at first floor in 2008, and stairway from first to second floor in 2008.





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Photos 15 and 16

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Fireplace in den in southwest corner of first floor in 2008, and view of living room (looking east) at first floor in 2008.

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Photos 17 and 18

Kitchen with center island in 2008, and butler's pantry in 2008.





Photos 19 and 20

Second floor hallway and stairway baluster in 2008, and view of fireplace in master bedroom, second floor, in 2008.

