

## Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination

Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office, City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
808 W. Spokane Falls Boulevard, Spokane, WA 99201

### 1. HISTORIC NAME

Historic Name **MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**  
Common Name

### 2. LOCATION

Street & Number 628 East 22nd Avenue  
City, State, Zip Code Spokane, WA 99203  
Parcel Number 35293.0904

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both		<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> residential
	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes, restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes, unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name Leo & Lucia Huntington  
Street & Number 628 E. 22nd Avenue  
City, State, Zip Code Spokane, WA 99203  
Telephone Number/E-mail 509-838-7473, huntington628@comcast.net

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds Spokane County Courthouse  
Street Number 1116 West Broadway  
City, State, Zip Code Spokane, WA 99201  
County Spokane

### 6. REPRESENTATION OF EXISTING SURVEYS

Title City of Spokane Historic Landmarks Survey  
Date Federal\_\_\_ State\_\_\_ County\_\_\_ Local\_\_\_  
Location of Survey Records Spokane Historic Preservation Office

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

*(continuation sheets attached)*

**Architectural Classification**

**Condition**

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

**Check One**

- unaltered
- altered

**Check One**

- original site
- moved & date

**8. SPOKANE REGISTER CATEGORIES & STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*(continuation sheets attached)*

**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.
- 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.

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

*Bibliography is found on one or more continuation sheets.*

**10. DIGITAL PHOTOS, MAPS, SITE PLANS, ARTICLES, ETC.**

*Items are found on one or more continuation sheets.*

**11. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

Acreage of Property	Less than one acre.
Verbal Boundary Description	Manito Park Addition, Lot 3, Block 22.
Verbal Boundary Justification	Nominated property includes entire parcel and urban legal description.

**12. FORM PREPARED BY**

Name and Title	Linda Yeomans, Preservation Consultant
Organization	Historic Preservation Planning & Design
Street, City, State, Zip Code	501 W. 27 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Spokane, WA 99203
Telephone Number	509-456-3828
Email Address	lindayeomans@comcast.net
Date Final Nomination Heard	June 15, 2016

13. Signature of Owner(s)

*Lucia Huntington*  
*Lucia Huntington*

14. For Official Use Only:

Date nomination application filed: 5/16/16

Date of Landmarks Commission hearing: 6/15/16

Landmarks Commission decision: approved

Date of City Council/Board of County Commissioners' hearing: \_\_\_\_\_

City Council/Board of County Commissioners' decision: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property has been listed in the Spokane Register of Historic Places based upon the action of either the City Council or the Board of County Commissioners as set forth above.

*Megan Duvall* 6/16/16  
Megan Duvall Date

City/County Historic Preservation Officer  
City/County Historic Preservation Office  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor - City Hall, Spokane, WA 99201

Attest:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant City Attorney

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*2016 photo of the Burr House*



*1966 photo of the Burr House*

## ***SECTION 7: DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY***

### ***Summary Statement***

Built in 1912 in an architecturally prominent Rockwood-area neighborhood on Spokane, Washington's prominent South Hill, the Munroe & Helen Burr House is a fine example of the Craftsman style. The property illustrates strong Craftsman-style elements and horizontal emphasis found in the home's very low-pitched roof, widely overhanging eaves, horizontal wood siding, wide exterior wood trim, heavily textured stucco foundation, and a spacious wrap-around front porch. Producing exaggerated horizontality, the front porch is covered by an extension of the property's principal roof, distinguished by widely overhanging eaves extending to a depth of 4 feet. An unusual low, long "eyebrow" dormer/window covered by a very low-pitched wide shed roof significantly adds to the home's exaggerated horizontality. Interior woodwork is prominently expressed in deep ebony-colored curly- and vertical-grain fir, hand-rubbed to a rich patina. Oak hardwood floors reflect decorative articulation in inlaid mahogany/walnut strips laid around room perimeters. Well-preserved, the Burr House retains a high degree of exterior and interior architectural integrity in original location, design, materials, craftsmanship, and association.

### ***CURRENT CONDITION & APPEARANCE***

#### ***Site***

The Burr House is located on Lot 3, Block 22 in the Manito Park Addition, two miles southeast and uphill from the center of downtown Spokane. The lot is 50 feet wide, 175 feet deep, and faces north onto East 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The house is built in the center of the lot; a garage is located behind the house in the southwest corner of the property, accessed by a paved driveway from 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. Built on a slightly descending north-facing slope, the property is framed by a manicured lawn, mature trees, and a variety of shrubs. An original basalt rock retaining wall parallels the west elevation of the house, and extends to the street at 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The Burr House is located adjacent west of the Rockwood National Register Historic District and is surrounded by a gridwork of directionally correct paved streets and single-family residential homes built between 1905 and 1945.

#### ***House Exterior***

The Burr House reflects an irregular footprint with a width of 33 feet and a depth of 47 feet. The house is one-and-one-half stories with a low-pitched, composition-shingled, side-gable roof. The roof has widely overhanging eaves with supporting brackets and wide bargeboards. A clinker brick chimney is located on the home's ridge crest, just east of center. The house is clad with 6-inch-wide horizontal wood siding at the first floor and 12-inch-wide wood shingle siding in gable peaks. Unusually heavily textured coarse stucco covers a basalt rock foundation. Windows are a combination of original fixed, double-hung, and casement units arranged as single, paired, tripartite, and multiple horizontal rows.

The façade of the house faces north onto East 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The home's north facade is distinguished by two dominant exterior architectural focal points: 1) a wide, very low-

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination**  
**MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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pitched, shed-roof eyebrow dormer, and 2) a spacious wrap-around front porch shaded by unusually deep overhanging eaves.

The north façade's eyebrow dormer is a unique feature of the Burr House and a strong characteristic element of the Craftsman style. The very long, low eyebrow dormer with a low-pitched widely overhanging shed roof is located in the center of the home's north façade roof slope. A narrow eyebrow window<sup>1</sup> opens from the eyebrow dormer. The horizontally long, narrow window is 66 inches wide, only 12 inches high, and opens inward from hinges located at the lower inside edge of the window. The window is flanked by two small sidelight windows that measure one foot square, and open inward the same way as the eyebrow window. The eyebrow window and the two sidelight windows are multi-paned with wood muntins/mullions that feature a repeated decorative geometric divided-light motif articulated in casement windows, service doors, built-in hutch and bookcase windows, and boxed ceiling beam designs throughout the house. The eyebrow window and eyebrow dormer are prominent Craftsman-style design features of the house.

The second dominant focal point of the home's exterior is the north facade front porch. The front porch is covered by a deep shed extension of the principal roof and is articulated with widely overhanging eaves that extend up to 4 feet. The porch is supported by thick square wood porch posts arranged as single posts at the porch entrance and three-post clusters at outside porch corners. A porch balustrade reflects strong horizontal emphasis with thick square horizontal porch rails and balusters made of alternating 10-inch-wide wood panels. The porch is covered with a wood plank deck. Four concrete steps lead from a walkway up to the porch deck. Massive porch staircase walls with concrete coping are distinguished with heavily textured coarse stucco, and protrude outward from the front porch on either side of concrete steps. The porch ceiling is made of tongue-in-groove wood planks. Designed as an outdoor living space (a Craftsman-style tenet), the spacious L-shaped front porch is 21 feet wide and 7 to 12 feet deep as it wraps around the northeast corner of the house. The home's north face is clad with horizontal wood siding. The foundation is covered with coarsely textured stucco. A horizontal watertable separates the foundation from the first floor.

The west elevation of the Burr House features the gable peak of the home's side-gable roof and reveals the roof's very low pitch. Exposed knee-brace brackets support widely overhanging eaves. The house is clad on the west elevation with a continuation of the horizontal wood siding at the north face. A distinguishing feature of the west elevation is a center box bay, which projects outward two feet from the planar wall surface of the house at the first floor. The bay is 12 feet wide and is covered with a low-pitched shed roof and deep bargeboard. A pair of 1/1 double-hung windows are centered in the west face of the box bay. Other fenestration on the west elevation includes a 1/1 double-hung window adjacent south of the box bay and a prominent horizontal row of four casement

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<sup>1</sup> An eyebrow window is defined as "a bottom-hinged, inward-opening window in the uppermost level of a house, usually under the front eaves; a window in an eyebrow." *Dictionary of Architecture & Construction, Third Edition*, page 353.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination**  
**MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

---

windows located adjacent north of the box bay. A row of three casement windows is located in the gable peak. The row of four casement windows on the first floor and the row of three casement windows in the gable peak have multi-paned divided-lights with wood muntin/mullion bars designed in a geometric motif used in Craftsman and Prairie styles. Like the foundation at the north face, the foundation at the west elevation is covered with heavily textured, coarsely grained stucco. A watertable separates the foundation from the first floor.

The east elevation supports part of the front porch at the first floor as the porch wraps around the northeast corner of the house. At the east elevation, the wrap-around porch measures 12 feet deep and 5 feet wide. The porch is covered with a shallow-pitched gable roof, which shape and roof pitch repeats and matches the east elevation side-gable roof of the house. The porch roof has widely overhanging eaves and exposed knee-brace brackets. The gable peak of the porch is clad with wood shingle siding as is the east elevation gable peak of the house. The foundation wall is covered with heavily textured, coarse stucco. A watertable separates the foundation from the first floor. A tripartite window with decorative geometric wood muntin/mullion bars is located at the porch on the first floor. A pair of double-hung windows is located at the first floor adjacent south of the tripartite window. A row of three casement windows is located in the gable peak, matching the west elevation's gable peak casement windows. A back door and porch steps are located on the first floor, east elevation, at the southeast corner of the house.

The rear, south elevation of the house faces a manicured back yard and a double-car garage built in the southwest rear corner of the property. A back door and back porch covered with a wood pergola are located at the east end of the south elevation (a second back door and porch). Window placement on the south elevation is asymmetrical and includes 1/1 double-hung windows and a multi-paned tripartite window. Like the north, east, and west elevations of the house, the south elevation is clad in a continuation of horizontal wood siding, and the foundation is covered with a continuation of coarsely textured stucco. A wood watertable separates the foundation from the first floor. Original center concrete steps west of the back porch descend to a basement door below grade. A plain wood balustrade encircles and protects the concrete stairwell to the basement.

***House Interior***

The interior of the house has 1,566 square feet of finished space on the first floor, 500 finished square feet on the second floor, and 700 unfinished square feet in the basement, for a total of 2,766 square feet.<sup>2</sup> A 42-inch-wide front door made of ebony-finished solid curly- and vertical-grain fir opens into the home from the front porch. It has three inset vertical panels in the lower half of the door and eight divided lights in the upper leaf. An original brass door lock/handle set and an original brass door knocker remain in excellent operable condition on the front door. The door opens directly into a spacious L-shaped living room and dining room. Both rooms are embellished with prominent high-quality,

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<sup>2</sup> Spokane County public records.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination**  
**MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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ebony-finished curly- and vertical-grain fir woodwork expressed in box beamed ceilings, floor molding, crown molding, door and window surrounds, wainscoting with fir battens and plate rail, built-in bookcases, built-in china cabinet buffet and hutch, and a built-in colonnade located between the living room and dining room. The living room and dining room are distinguished with oak hardwood floors embellished with double strands of thin, inlaid mahogany/walnut strips that outline the perimeters of both rooms. French doors flanked by two sidelights open to the front porch from the dining room and are finished a dark ebony hue. A service door in the dining room and a service door in the living room are located on the south inside wall, and are made of ebony-finished fir with two inset vertical panels capped by narrow horizontal, multi-paned leaded-glass windows. The colored cathedral glass in the windows reflects shades of amber and pale green tints. Multi-paned windows in the two service doors, multi-paned windows in the French doors and flanking sidelights, and multi-paned windows in the living room and dining room are all articulated with a matching geometric pattern of divided lights representative of Craftsman-style and Prairie-style architecture. The geometric window pattern is further repeated in the beam pattern for the boxed ceiling beams in the living room and dining room. Windows in the living room feature a wide tripartite unit on the north wall and a horizontal row of four casement windows on the west wall. The west-wall windows are set high on the wall above the wall's half-way point, and are sometimes called "piano windows," designed for the placement of a piano or large furniture below the windows. A focal point of the living room is a fireplace built on the inside south wall. The fireplace is articulated with a red brick fireplace surround, a dark mottled red/brown matte glazed ceramic tile hearth, and an ebony-finished fir mantel. A Craftsman-style and Prairie-style tenet, black grout set deep between bricks defines the brick surround of the fireplace. A built-in bookcase with leaded- and stained-glass doors is located next adjacent west of the fireplace. The stained-glass doors repeat the same decorative geometric pattern found in all windows in the living room and dining room. Two colonnades flank the wide opening between the living room and the dining room. The colonnade is made of ebony-finished fir, and is supported by square and tapered wood piers anchored to the bookcases. Five-foot-high wainscoting with ebony-finished fir battens and a decorative bracket-supported plate rail rings the perimeter of the dining room. A built-in china cabinet with a buffet and hutch is located on the south wall and is a focal point of the dining room. It features original buffet doors, drawers, original brass Craftsman-style hardware, and beveled mirror backsplash. The built-in hutch located above the buffet and backsplash features a bracketed sill at the lower edge of the hutch, and four leaded- and stained-glass doors with the repeated geometric motif of windows, doors, and the ceiling in the house. A plate rail and decorative brackets finished in a deep ebony hue cap the hutch. A feature of the Craftsman style, door and window lintels in the living room and dining room extend past door and window frames, and are cut diagonally at outside corners—another calculated Craftsman-style design feature that emphasizes horizontality.

A service door next east of the buffet and hutch on the dining room's south wall opens to a remodeled kitchen with built-in casework, soapstone countertops, ceramic tile backsplash, and Marmoleum floor. The kitchen flows southeast to a family room, back



**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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service hallway, powder room, and back door. The kitchen leads west through a doorway to a central service hall. The central service hall leads to a remodeled full bathroom on the center south wall, a bedroom in the southwest corner of the house, a bedroom on the center west wall, and a built-in linen closet located between the two bedrooms. A built-in niche designed for placement of a telephone is located on the south wall in the service hallway by the full bathroom. An interior staircase leads up to the second floor from the hallway, and an interior staircase to the basement is located under the ascending staircase. All interior doors in the bedrooms and hallway are made of pine with 5 horizontal inset panels each. Original 1912 brass door hinges and hexagonal door knobs in excellent condition render each door operable. Lintels over windows and doors extend past door and window frames, and reveal diagonal cuts at upper outside corners. All woodwork is painted white in the kitchen, family room, service hallways, bedrooms, and bathroom. The bathroom floor is covered with hexagonal glazed ceramic tile while the hallway and bedroom floors are natural honey-colored finished fir planks. Ceiling heights are 8 feet.

The second floor has a bedroom on the west wall and a sizeable bathroom and walk-in closet on the east wall (remodeled from an original bedroom in 1999). A door adjacent east of the built-in linen closet opens into an unfinished attic. Second-floor woodwork is painted white, floors are made of fir planks and linoleum, and ceiling heights are 7-8 feet and lower under roof eaves. The basement is unfinished with 7-8 foot ceilings, a concrete floor, and workshop areas, storage rooms, and a laundry room. Gas-fired hot water heat distributed through original iron radiators supplies radiant heat to the home.

***Garage and Rock Retaining Wall***

The existing double-car garage was built in 1966<sup>3</sup> and replaced a single-car garage erected in October 1912.<sup>4</sup> The 1966 garage measures 20 feet wide and 24 feet deep. It is one story and has a front-facing gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Eaves are widely overhanging with exposed rafter tails. The garage is clad with 8-inch-deep horizontal wood siding at the first floor and 10-inch wood shingles in the gable peak. A paneled overhead door opens to the garage's interior from the building's north façade. The garage floor is poured concrete. An original 1912 wood-paneled, divided-light pedestrian door is located on the east elevation of the garage. A contemporary aluminum sliding window is located next south of the pedestrian door.

In 1912 when the house was built, a basalt rock retaining wall was constructed along the west elevation of the house next to the paved driveway from the rear of the house to the street at 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The rock wall is two feet high and reveals a combination of dry stack and grout-infill designs. The garage and basalt rock retaining wall are historic resources of the property and *are nominated at this time* to the Spokane Register of Historic Places.

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<sup>3</sup> Spokane County public records.

<sup>4</sup> Spokane City Building permit #4062, October 7, 1912.

***ORIGINAL APPEARANCE & SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS***

Built in 1912, the Burr House retains its original 1912 location, original materials, original workmanship, and the majority of its original design. A 1910 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map pictured the property's site on East 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue *without* a house number and *without* a house—the house had not yet been built. Two years later, the 1912 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map pictured a footprint of the original Burr House, and noted the street address as “East 628” on 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.<sup>5</sup> In 1922, the open back porch pictured on the 1912 map was enlarged and enclosed with an addition.<sup>6</sup> The addition footprint was pictured on a 1953 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map and on a circa 1950s site plan of the property.<sup>7</sup> In 1965, the kitchen and butler's pantry were opened as one large room and remodeled with built-in casework, new counter tops, fixtures, and repainted walls and ceiling. In 1966, a Spokane County tax assessor photo was taken of the property's north façade and west elevation, and pictured the home's original design intact. In 1967, the home's 4-foot-deep roof eave overhangs at the north façade front porch and south rear elevation were repaired and retained at their original depth. The east and west eave overhangs were shortened and repaired to prevent further damage from annual ice dams and heavy snow loads. In the 1980s, ceilings in the living room and dining room were embellished with ornamental plasterwork. In 2002, the exterior of the house was repainted.

From 2003 to 2016, the home's current owners undertook a 13-year maintenance project to repair, renovate, and rehabilitate the exterior and interior of the Burr House. Except grading and work to the grounds around the house, a summary of the work completed to the Burr House includes:

*Exterior*

- repaired all casement windows to working condition
- repaired and repainted front porch ceiling
- installed style-appropriate light fixtures
- installed window screens (used original screens as found for living/dining room and new screens for the remainder of house)
- rebuilt sills and windows in basement to correct water damage
- installed French drain at south elevation to prevent moisture in basement
- built and installed a pergola over back porch
- installed new composition shingle roof on house and garage in 2008
- installed metal center railing at front porch steps
- extended porch posts on either side of porch steps to porch ceiling for support
- rebuilt wood stairs and railing on east elevation back porch
- rebuilt wood plank porch floor on south elevation back porch
- installed home rain gutter system

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<sup>5</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

<sup>6</sup> City of Spokane Building Permit #18367, October 9, 1922.

<sup>7</sup> Spokane County public records.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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*Interior*

- stripped wallpaper, repaired surfaces, and repainted interior of home at first and second floors
- replaced non-original light fixtures with period-appropriate fixtures
- built and installed bookshelf in southwest bedroom on first floor
- built and installed radiator covers throughout house
- remodeled hall bathroom on first floor
- removed carpet and linoleum from first-floor hall and bedrooms, and refinished exposed fir floors
- repaired stained-glass doors in living room built-in bookcase
- repaired stained glass in service door between living room and hall
- hung grass cloth below plate rail in dining room
- installed vertical fir battens that match original batten shadows revealed under wallpaper in dining room (found one original batten behind dining room radiator)
- installed handrail on stairwell between first and second floors
- refinished kitchen/dining room service door
- replaced damaged hardware as needed with period-appropriate hardware
- replaced vinyl floors in powder room and first-floor bathroom with hexagonal ceramic tiles
- remodeled kitchen (built-in casework, soapstone counters, new fixtures, Marmoleum floor covering, ceramic tile backsplash, repainted walls and ceiling)
- Marmoleum floor installed in family room and hall to south back door when remodeled kitchen
- Furnace replaced
- east bedroom on the second floor was remodeled as a bathroom (1999)

**SECTION 8: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

<i>Areas of Significance</i>	<i>Architecture</i>
<i>Period of Significance</i>	<i>1912-1966</i>
<i>Built Date</i>	<i>1912</i>
<i>Builder/Developer</i>	<i>Allister Mack Laing</i>

**Summary Statement**

Preserved in excellent condition as a hallmark example of the bungalow house form embellished in the Craftsman tradition, the Burr House is eligible for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Category C for its architectural significance. The property's period of significance is from 1912, the year the home was built, to 1966, the year the garage was constructed. Regarded as significant characteristics of the bungalow form and the Craftsman style, the home's low-slung design and construction materials were purposefully calculated to exaggerate the home's horizontal lines, organically integrating the dwelling to the site on which it was built. Strong horizontal elements of the Burr House include a very low-pitched roof; widely overhanging eaves, and a visually prominent low, long eyebrow dormer/eyebrow window at the home's façade. Interior features include the use of superior quality curly- and vertical-grain ebony-finished fir woodwork, built-in furniture, oak floors with narrow inlaid perimeter strips, horizontal rows of casement windows, and a large open floor plan in the living and dining room. A 1912 article and photograph featured in the *Spokesman-Review* newspaper<sup>8</sup> compared the plan for the Burr House "on the architectural lines of the California bungalows," which were built in Los Angeles and Pasadena, CA, the birthplace of the Craftsman style. The home is named for the property's first and most significant homeowners, Munroe V. & Helen O. Burr. Munroe Burr was a prominent Spokane businessman, successful electrician, and electrical contractor who owned the Burr Electric Company in Spokane for over 30 years.

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

***Manito Park Addition and "Rockwood"***

The Manito Park Addition was platted in 1903 on Spokane's South Hill by real estate developers Jay P. Graves and Fred B. Grinnell. To handle real estate development activity and business, Graves and Grinnell formed the Spokane-Washington Improvement Company, a corporation. As they platted and planned the area south of 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and east of Grand Boulevard for residential use, they began selling lots to architects, builders, and prospective homeowners. They built a street car line along with needed infrastructure, including graded and paved streets, paved public sidewalks, street lights and street trees, underground sewer lines, electrical service, and fresh water supplied to each residence. Hutton Public School was built, and churches were constructed in the area. Graves and Grinnell invited the nationally famous Olmsted Brothers Architectural Firm from Brookline, Massachusetts to design curvilinear lots, streets, parking strips, and greenbelts in a specific South Hill area, which was

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<sup>8</sup> *Spokesman-Review*, 9 June 1912.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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characterized by robust and irregular topography, high basalt bluffs, massive basalt “haystack” boulders, and pine tree forests. The specific portion designed by the Olmsteds and the surrounding area was widely known as “Rockwood.”<sup>9</sup> The name was used for residential areas built throughout various Manito Park additions from Grand Boulevard east to Southeast Boulevard.

Written as early land use protections and appropriate architectural controls, Graves and Grinnell, doing business as the Spokane-Washington Improvement Company, issued restrictive subdivision regulations, which were initiated as protective covenants tied to ownership deeds for Rockwood property.

*“It is covenanted and agreed between parties...and made a condition or covenant running with the land herein conveyed” that:*

- 1) no residence shall be erected upon said lot that shall cost less than \$800,*
- 2) a residence built on said land shall be of modern style and architecture,*
- 3) no outhouse or barn shall be erected and used as a dwelling before the construction of the main dwelling house,*
- 4) no building erected on said lot shall be used for business purposes of any kind.<sup>10</sup>*

Developers Graves and Grinnell did not stop their development at Grand Boulevard but moved west across the street where they deeded 92 acres of irregular, hilly, rocky and mostly unbuildable land to the City of Spokane, to be developed as a public recreation area called Manito Park.<sup>11</sup> Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Spokane’s Manito Park is one of the largest and most beautiful public parks, gardens, and recreation areas in the city.

Modest as well as large, grandiose homes were built throughout Rockwood, one of the most architecturally prominent residential areas of Spokane’s South Hill. The nominated Burr House, 628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, is located between the Olmsted-designed portion of Rockwood and Manito Park.

***Munroe & Helen Burr***

In 1904, the Northwestern & Pacific Hypotheekbank warranted a deed for Lot 3, Block 22 in the Manito Park Addition to Jay P. Graves and Fred Grinnell’s real estate development company, the Spokane-Washington Improvement Company. In 1906, professional printer, Arvid Palmer, purchased the lot for \$150, and sold it 5 months later

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<sup>9</sup> The area specifically designed by the Olmsted firm is known today as the Rockwood National Register Historic District. The historic district and the larger area surrounding the historic district is commonly known as “Rockwood” or the Rockwood residential area of Spokane’s South Hill.

<sup>10</sup> Spokane County public records.

<sup>11</sup> Manito Park and its duck pond were first called Montrose Park and Mirror Lake by Francis Cook, who purchased the property in 1886 from the Northern Pacific Railroad. A Spokane pioneer business leader and real estate entrepreneur, Cook founded Spokane’s first newspaper (*Spokane Times*), formed a private park he called Montrose Park and Mirror Lake on his South Hill acreage, and developed Spokane’s first motor trolley, the Spokane & Montrose Motor Railroad.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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for \$225 to his tenant and friend, Sixtus Johnson, a cabinetmaker and “machine man” at Washington Mill Company. Palmer and Johnson shared a house built in 1910 at 624 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue on Lot 4, next door adjacent west of Lot 3 (628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue). On July 1911, Sixtus Johnson sold Lot 3 to real estate developer/builder, Allister Mack Laing. Between July 1911 and September 1912, developer/builder Laing commissioned a house built on the lot at 628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. After construction of the house was complete, Laing sold the property in September 1912 to Spokane electrical contractor, Munroe Burr. When Burr bought the property, he assumed a \$2,000 mortgage secured March 22, 1912 by Laing. Perhaps Laing needed cash so he borrowed money against the property, and sold the mortgage assumption to Burr with the house.

Munroe Van Veck Burr was born in 1879<sup>12</sup> in Connecticut, and came to Spokane by 1900. In Spokane in 1906, he married Minnesotan, Helen O. Johnson. Munroe Burr was self-employed as an electrician and electrical contractor. He advertised his electrical business as the Burr Electric Company, doing business at 114 N. Lincoln Street, specializing in “electric motors,” and “bought and sold electric supplies, fixtures and chandeliers.”<sup>13</sup> In 1912, Burr and his wife, Helen, moved from 1308 W. Cleveland Avenue on the north side of Spokane to 628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue on the city’s South Hill.

Munroe Burr was an avid outdoorsman and owned a ranch near Scotia, WA, just north of Spokane by Diamond Lake. In 1906, articles in the *Spokane Daily Chronicle* newspaper gave accounts of Burr shooting a black bear on his ranch. Eighteen years later on October 13, 1924, the *Spokane Daily Chronicle* reported Munroe Burr “was stricken with a heart attack while hunting in a collapsible duck boat on Medical Lake” where “he fell from the boat and was drowned.” A successful electrician, electrical contractor, and business owner, Munroe Burr was a resident of Spokane for 33 years. He was a member of the Elks Lodge and the Knights of Pythias fraternal organizations.

***Subsequent Homeowners***

In 1916, the Burr House was purchased by brothers William Kaye and Albert Kaye. At different times, William Kaye was a secretary for the Pacific Mortgage Company, and a secretary followed by vice president of the Mechanic’s Loan & Trust Company in Spokane. Brother Albert Kaye also worked for the Mechanic’s Loan & Trust Company where he was employed as a cashier and secretary. In 1917, railroad conductor Charles Dunn, and his wife, Mary Dunn, purchased the property for \$5,000. They sold the house to Frances & William Tipton, a salesman for Hege & Watkins Company, specializing in “real estate mortgages, loans, and farmland.”

Thomas & Mary Linden bought the property in 1922. Thomas worked as a carpet cleaner in Spokane, and secured a building permit for \$400 for an “addition” to enlarge and enclose the back porch of the house, including a family room and powder room.<sup>14</sup> The

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<sup>12</sup> Ancestry.com lists M. V. Burr as born in 1878 but a birth record and the Spokane Greenwood Cemetery Survey in Spokane records Burr’s birth in 1879.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> City of Spokane Building Permit #18367, October 9, 1922.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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Lindens sold the house to George & Jennie Weaver in 1924, who sold the property just six months later for \$7,000 to Nellie & Carl Brandt, a salesman and manager for Hughes & Company, wholesale plumbers, steam and mill supplies.

In 1953, Flayvell (or Flaywell) & Dorothy Gokee bought the property for \$12,000. Flayvell Gokee worked as a manufacturer's sales agent and Dorothy was employed as a bookkeeper for Anthony, Baker & Burns Company in Spokane.

The Gokees sold the property to Roy & Edith Dahl in 1959 for \$12,500. Roy Dahl was associated with real estate sales and investments for the Dahl McDonald Company and later for the Sherwood & Roberts Company. The Dahls sold the house to Robert & Patricia Graff in 1963 for \$12,950. Robert Graff was a manager for Standard Oil & Gas stations in Spokane. In 1965, the Graffs remodeled the butler's pantry and kitchen to accommodate one large room, and installed built-in casework and countertops, fixtures, and repainted walls and ceilings.

Charles & Caroline Flanagan bought the house in 1968. Charles Flanagan was employed as an engineer for the Washington State Department of Highways, and Caroline Flanagan worked as a registered nurse for Sacred Heart Hospital. Ronald Carter, president of a cabinet shop, and his wife, Virginia Carter, purchased the property in 1977. They sold it to Spokane physician, Elizabeth R. Widman, in 1980 for \$57,500. Dr. Widman leased the house to various renters, and sold the property in 1987 to Michael & Patricia McGowan for \$58,000. Michael McGowan worked for Cornerstone Printing. In 1992, Alyce Stevens, the manager for Allied Credit Company in Spokane, and James Dodson bought the house. They sold it to Lyle & Nancy Coffey in 1999 for \$173,500.

Current owners, Leo & Lucia Huntington, purchased the property in May 2003 for \$215,000. Now retired, Leo Huntington was employed as store manager of the N. Division Street K-Mart store in Spokane. Lucia Huntington worked as an assistant professor for Gonzaga University in the English-As-A-Second-Language program.

### ***ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE***

#### ***Category C***

Category C of the Spokane Register of Historic Places applies to "properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork."<sup>15</sup> To be eligible for historic register listing under Category C, "a property must meet at least one of the following requirements:"<sup>16</sup>

1. *Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.*
2. *Represent the work of a master.*
3. *Possess high artistic value.*

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<sup>15</sup> *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.* p 17.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid*, p. 17

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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4. *Represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.*<sup>17</sup>

The Munroe & Helen Burr House is nominated under Category C in the area of significance, “architecture,” because the home “embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction” and “refers to the way” in which the “property was conceived, designed, or fabricated by a people or culture in past periods of history.”<sup>18</sup> “Distinctive characteristics are the physical features or traits that commonly recur in individual types, periods, or methods of construction. To be eligible, a property must clearly contain enough of those characteristics to be considered a true representative of a particular type, period, or method of construction.”<sup>19</sup>

The Burr House is a fine example of the bungalow house form and the Craftsman style because it retains and displays multiple stylistic elements and architectural features of the Craftsman tradition. The home possesses high artistic values, which are particularly evident in the well-preserved quality, craftsmanship, and architectural integrity of the home’s original and unique organic expressions of the Craftsman style.

***Bungalow House Form***

Architectural historian Jan Cigliano (*Bungalow: American Restoration Style*) defines the American bungalow:

*Bungalow is a form of house, a type of structure designed in a number of architectural styles; style by contrast, is a particular period and genre of design. The bungalow house type is a single-family residence, one or one-and-one-half stories high, and designed in elevation, plan, and roofline to achieve a horizontal and rectangular emphasis.*<sup>20</sup>

The American word “bungalow” was derived from the British and East Indian word “bangla” which referred to low, one-story thatched huts with wide verandahs that were built in Hindi East India during British occupation. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century bungalow became popular with the British and was eventually built around seaside resorts in England. The appeal of the bungalow house form and its more affordable construction cost grew tremendously during both the English and American Arts & Crafts periods in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and was described by Gustav Stickley, a prominent voice in the American Arts & Crafts movement, as “a house reduced to its simplest form which never fails to harmonize with its surroundings...”<sup>21</sup> Ideal values attributed to bungalows afforded descriptive adjectives such as “simple, comfortable, nature’s materials-colors-forms, modest, crafted by artisans, integrated with the natural environment, affordable,

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid, p. 17

<sup>18</sup> Ibid, p. 17

<sup>19</sup> Ibid, p. 18

<sup>20</sup> Cigliano, Jan.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid, p. 12.



and art in form and function.”<sup>22</sup> The bungalow house form was popular in America from about 1900 to 1940, and was particularly embraced in the United States, especially along the West Coast in areas like Pasadena and Los Angeles, California where the bungalow house form was sometimes called a “California bungalow” or a “Pasadena bungalow.”<sup>23</sup> Low-slung California bungalows were especially suited to the southwest United States and other warm climates, and were purposefully designed to keep the hot sun out of the house by shading the home as much as possible. Examples of shade-producing bungalow features included ground-hugging house forms (close to the cool ground and not the high, hot sun), widely overhanging roof eaves, interior unobstructed open spaces and multiple windows for interior cross-ventilation, and shade-producing trees.

### *Craftsman Style*

Popular from about 1900 to 1930, the Craftsman style has its roots in nature. Natural materials were revered such as indigenous river rocks or field stones, brick (especially clinker brick), hand-split wood shingles, wood clapboard siding, heavily textured coarse stucco to smooth fine stucco, leaded-glass windows, burnished copper and brass, and hand-forged wrought iron. The liberal use of natural woodwork hand-rubbed to a rich patina was paramount for interior treatments and included oak, fir, ash, walnut, chestnut, tamarack, cedar, mahogany, and other woods. Along with natural building materials, the Craftsman style emphasized horizontal prominence, and designers and architects plied their “tricks of the trade” in achieving this emphasis. Some of these design tricks included the application of architectural forms and elements such as one-and-one-half-story bungalow house forms, low-pitched roofs with widely overhanging eaves, exposed/extended rafter tails, wide bargeboards with tapered or cut-out ends, exposed structural members (rafter tails, brackets, posts, beams), mortise-and-tenon joints, numerous horizontal “belly” bands-stringcourses-belt courses that separated siding treatments or junctures between floors, horizontal rows of windows, tapered exterior walls and tapered porch supports, tapered window and door surrounds, and partial or full-width covered front porches and *porte cocheres* (carports). Interior elements were driven by the “Back to Nature” mantra of the Craftsman style, and included an open and unobstructed living space in principal rooms such as a living room-dining room, wide portals or colonnades between open spaces, rows of multiple windows to let in natural light, natural-finished oak-fir-walnut-mahogany and other wood surfaces in woodwork-floors-built-ins, brick-stone-stucco fireplaces, low 7-8-foot-high ceilings or lower under roof eaves, and “deep and muted earth tones to infuse the bungalow with a natural, subliminal calm: browns, greens, oranges, ochres, and reds.”<sup>24</sup> The aforementioned architectural details all worked together to accentuate the natural aesthetic and horizontal emphasis of the house.

### *The Bungalow Form & Craftsman Style of the Burr House*

As previously stated, the Burr House is architecturally significant as a fine example of the horizontally oriented bungalow house form. The property is a study in horizontal lines

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<sup>22</sup> Ibid, p. 13.

<sup>23</sup> Duchscherer, Paul.

<sup>24</sup> Cigliano, Jan.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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illustrated by the home's one-and-one-half story height, low-pitched side-gable roof, and a deep extension of the principal roof as it covers the front porch. Deeply overhanging eaves exaggerate horizontal lines as porch eaves extend 4 feet past the front edge of the porch. A prominent, artistic, and unusual horizontal Craftsman-style feature of the Burr House is a long, low eyebrow dormer with a long, low eyebrow window. The dormer has a very low-pitched shed roof and widely overhanging eaves that completely shade the window.

The Burr House reveals strong Craftsman-style elements, starting with the property's 1912 built date, which is within the Craftsman-style period, 1900-1930. Architectural elements include the home's low, ground-hugging bungalow house form, low-pitched roof, wide overhanging eaves and eave brackets, a combination of horizontal clapboard and shingle siding, horizontal rows of windows, horizontal watertable, wide frames around doors and windows, and a foundation made of rough, heavily textured stucco.

Interior Craftsman-style features of the Burr House include a prominent use of natural-finished curly- and vertical-grain fir woodwork, burnished to a deep ebony hue. Ebony-finished fir woodwork is found in the front door, French doors in the dining room, interior service doors, floor and crown molding, door and window surrounds, portal colonnade with tapered support piers, boxed ceiling beams, and built-in bookcases, buffet, and hutch. Additional interior Craftsman-style elements include a spacious open floor plan especially in the living room and dining room, finished oak and fir floors, extended beveled door and window lintels, built-in linen closets, and a repeated stylistic geometric pattern in windows, doors, and boxed ceiling beams (influenced by the Prairie style).

***A. M. Laing, Real Estate Developer***

As documented by Spokane building permits, the builder and real estate developer of the Burr House was Allister Mack (Mackay) Laing, born in Ontario, Canada in June 1879. He immigrated to Michigan in 1899, became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1908, and married Texas-native, Mary E. Fairchild (1877-1938). The Laings lived in Detroit for a few years, then moved to Spokane in 1911. The first listing in Spokane city directories for Allister & Mary Laing was in 1912—the year A. M. Laing built and completed construction of the Burr House.<sup>25</sup> A. M. Laing partnered with fellow Spokane builder/developer, Clark M. Cryor, for at least four years in Spokane from 1912 through 1915. Their business was called the Cryor-Laing Company and was advertised in the alphabetical section and page margins of city directories. An alphabetical listing described the company's specialties as "real estate, loans, and investments." Multiple page margin advertisements in city directories were printed in bold, black ink:

***BARGAINS IN HOMES  
Cryor-Laing Company***

*A few \$\$ down and balance same as rent will put you in Your Own Home.*

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<sup>25</sup> Spokane Building Permit #4062, October 7, 1912.

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Can you afford to continue to give your money to a landlord?  
Come in and talk it over.  
Cryor-Laing Company  
432 W. Riverside Avenue, Old National Bank Building, Suite 1129<sup>26</sup>*

In Spokane, A. M. & Mary Laing resided in a home at 617 E. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, three blocks south of the Burr House on the South Hill. After his partnership with Cryor was dissolved in 1916, the Laings lived at 1115 S. Cedar Street. From 1918 through 1934, A.M. Laing worked as a reporter and then a superintendent for the Bradstreet Company Inc. in Spokane, a professional “mercantile agency” and national credit reporting agency, colloquially called “Bradstreet’s.” In 1921, the Laings relocated to 1304 S. Monroe Street, and by 1935, to 808 S. Lincoln Place. While in Spokane, Laing was an elder of the Presbyterian Church, a member of the Rotary Club, and a business leader in the Spokane Chamber of Commerce. After 24 years in Spokane, A. M. & Mary Laing returned to Detroit in 1936. Two years later, Allister Mack Laing died at age 59 in March 1938.<sup>27</sup>

***Identical House Plans***

Spokane developer/contractor A. M. Laing was responsible for the “speculative” construction of the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house in the Rockwood neighborhood as noted in a June 9, 1912 *Spokesman-Review* newspaper article:

***CALIFORNIA BUNGALOW IN ROCKWOOD HAS NOVEL FEATURES***

*On plans which he brought with him from Los Angeles,  
A. M. Laing has just completed the erection of a very artistic bungalow on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
in the Rockwood district.  
The house is finished on the architectural lines of the California bungalows.  
The low flat roofs, broad porches, and pergola are exterior features of the construction.  
The bungalow is finished with 5 rooms,  
with room for 3 upstairs if it is decided to complete them.  
It is finished with hardwood floors and is strictly modern in every respect.  
All the built-in features are included in this novel home.  
In addition to a wide fireplace in the living room with a built-in bookcase, there is a  
built-in sideboard, and the kitchen is equipped with all  
the time- and labor-saving devices.  
The house cost approximately \$3,800.  
Laing built the bungalow for investment purposes.<sup>28</sup>*

While the above-referenced newspaper article is not about the Burr House, it might as well have been. Both the Burr House and the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house are identical in design, plan, and material. They were erected in 1912 by the same builder/developer, A. M. Laing, in the same Rockwood neighborhood, 8 blocks apart from one another. The

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<sup>26</sup> *Spokane City Directory*, 1913-1915.

<sup>27</sup> Ancestry.com and United States Census records.

<sup>28</sup> *Spokesman-Review*, 9 June 1912.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination**  
**MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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“house plans...from Los Angeles” that Laing used for the Burr House and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house illustrated an “artistic” bungalow design that specialized in “the architectural lines of the California bungalows.” The house plans were perhaps from the same architect or a California plan book<sup>29</sup> Albeit undocumented, the construction cost of the Burr House can be surmised to be about \$3,800—the newspaper article’s reported construction cost for the identical 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house.

The 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house was described in the *Spokesman-Review* newspaper article as a “very artistic bungalow” in the “Rockwood” district. Both the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house and the Burr House are located in the larger Rockwood area, and both the Burr House and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue home possess high artistic values in their low, Craftsman-style, ground-hugging bungalow form; widely overhanging eaves; and prominent long, low eyebrow dormer/eyebrow window.<sup>30</sup> The newspaper article also stated the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue home was “finished on the lines of the California bungalows.” To shade houses and keep out glaring sun rays, bungalows in Southern California were built with exaggerated overhanging eaves. The house plans used for the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house and for the identical Burr House called for widely overhanging eaves, especially over the edge of the front porch where eaves measure 4 feet in depth. So different in design from the tall, vertically oriented Victorian house styles that preceded them, the California-designed bungalows emphasized ground-hugging horizontal lines, causing an about-face in domestic architectural designs and practices. The “California bungalows” proved to be catalysts for the persuasive popularity of bungalows built throughout the United States during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In his book, *The Bungalow: America’s Arts & Crafts Home*,<sup>31</sup> architectural historian Paul Duchscherer explained the term “California bungalow” was coined due to the “bungalow’s strong early links to the state” and most particularly to the Pasadena area, which is commonly called the birthplace of the American bungalow and Craftsman style.

***Amil T. Johnson, Builder***

During the early 1900s in Spokane, it was not uncommon for architects and builders to be identified by certain architectural features, or “ciphers.” For example, Spokane architect W. W. Hyslop developed a specific bracket/brace design, which he used on many homes. Spokane builder John Anderson used individually or in combination brown, red, and orange-colored glazed ceramic tiles to cover roofs on many homes he built in Spokane. It is not surprising that Spokane carpenter and building contractor, Amil T. Johnson, became known for his signature design and cipher—hardwood floors articulated with narrow, dark-brown-stained inlaid mahogany and walnut perimeter floor strips. The Burr House is distinguished with the above-described inlaid floor strips around the perimeter of the home’s living room and dining room.

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<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

<sup>30</sup> Sometime in the circa 1920s-1930s, the façade eyebrow dormer of the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue house was relocated to the rear of the house, and replaced by a gable dormer.

<sup>31</sup> Duchscherer, Paul.

**Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE**

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"Drowned in Medical Lake." *Albany Daily Democrat*. 13 October 1924

"Killed By One Shot." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 Sept 1905

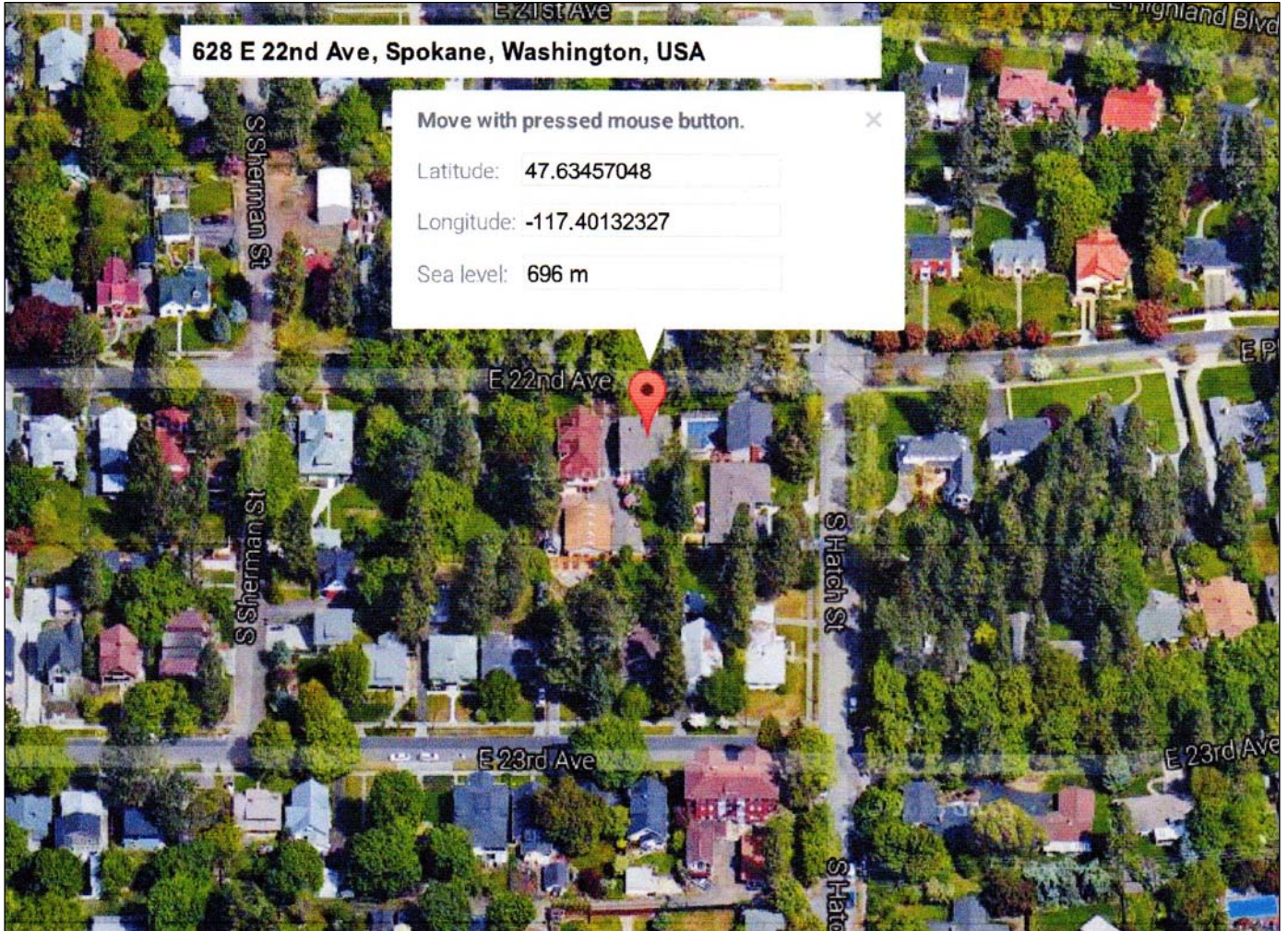
"Obituary: Allister Mack Laing." *Detroit Free Press*, 30 March 1938

"Shot a Bear Near Scotia." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 Sept 1905

*Spokane City Directory* advertisements. 1912-1916.

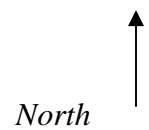
"Spokane Man Drowns While Duck Hunting." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 13 Oct 1924

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

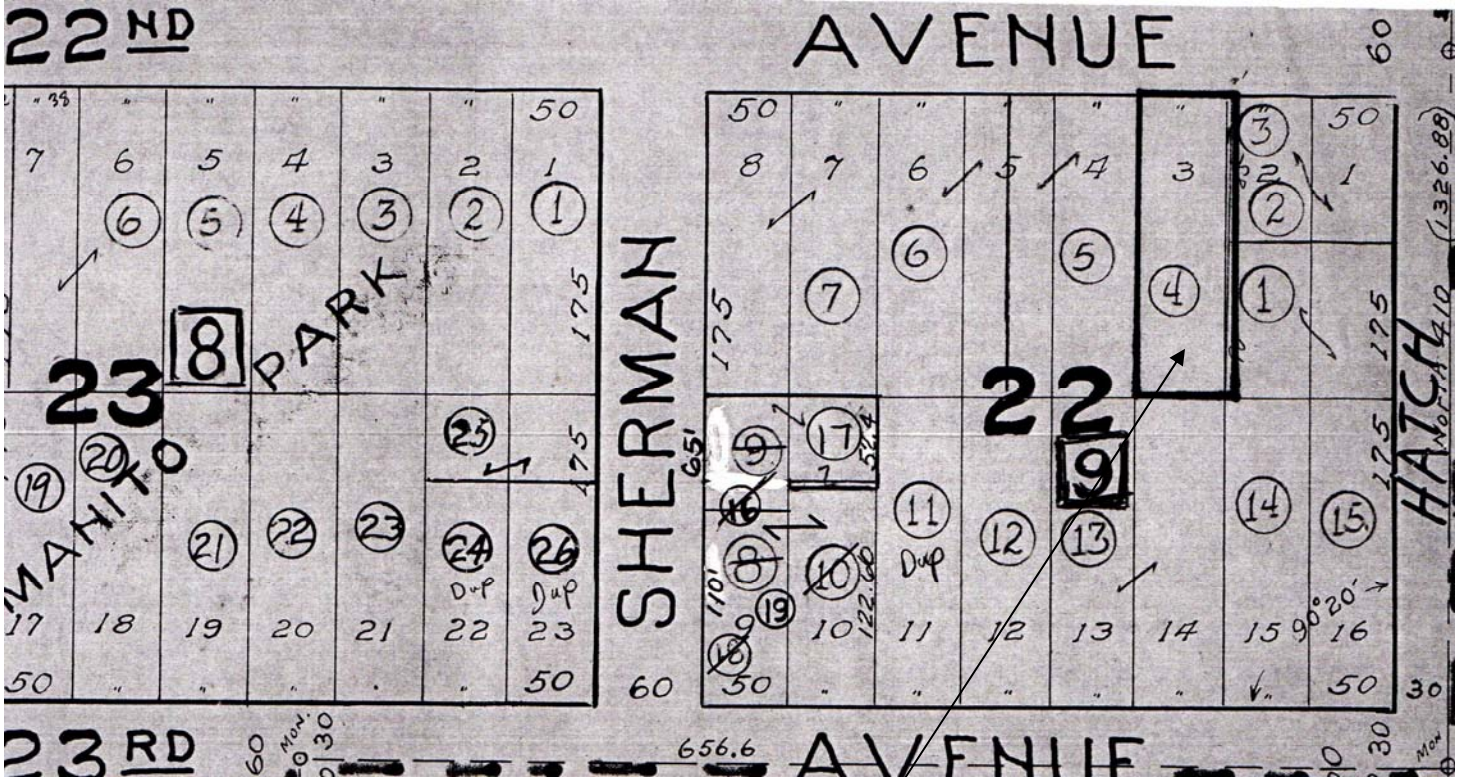


*628 East 22nd Avenue in 2016*

*Source: Google Maps*



Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

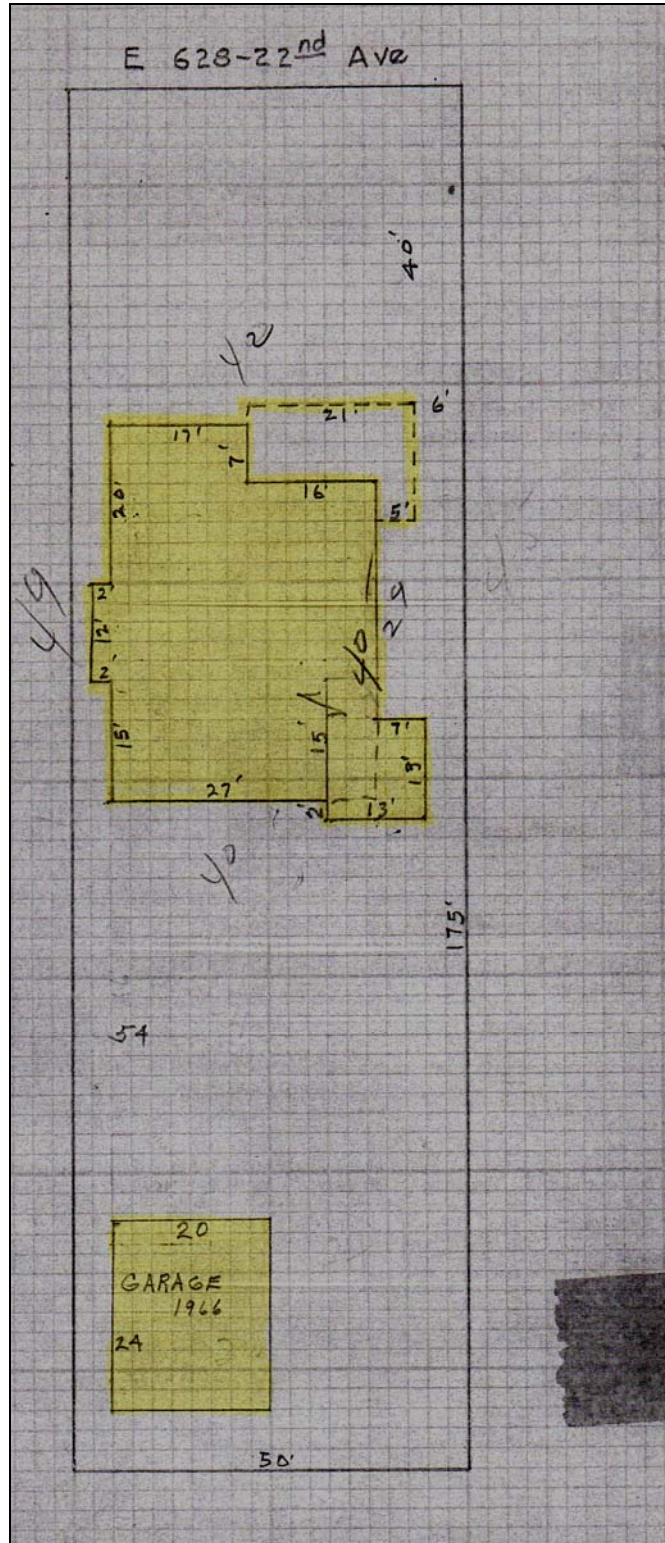


628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Manito Park Second Addition, Lot 3, Block 22

Source: Spokane County Plat Map



Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE



*Site Plan for 628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue*



Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Source: Spokane County Assessor*

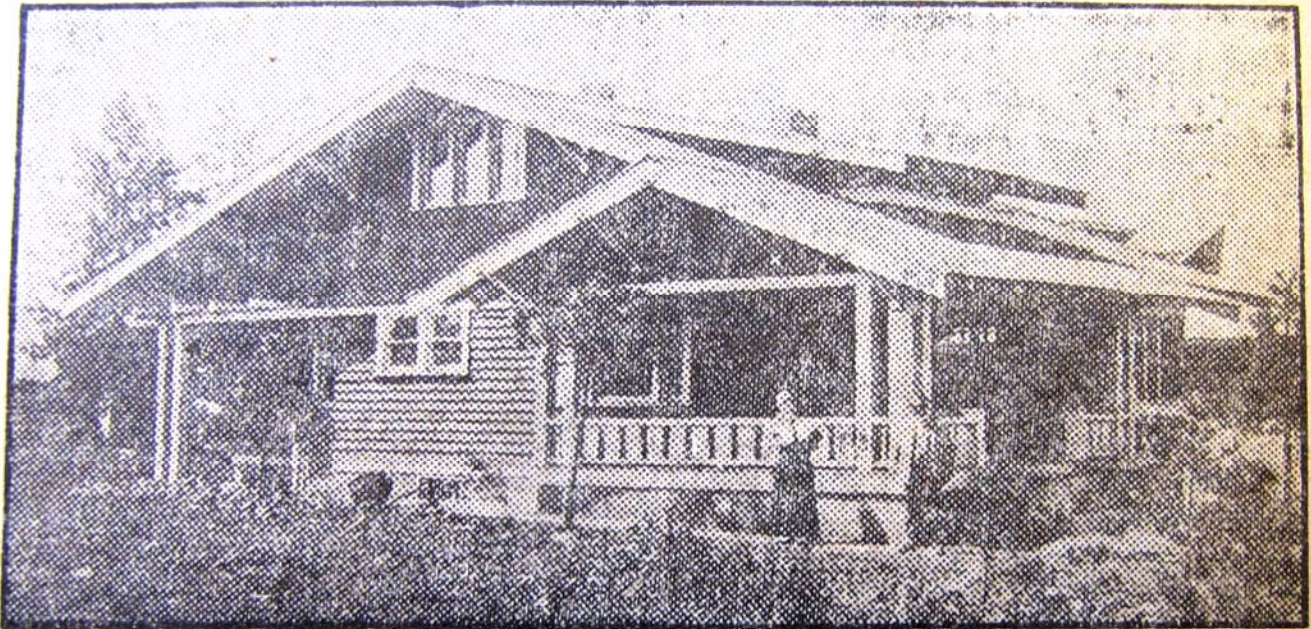


***1966 Photo***

*Source: Spokane County Tax Assessor Photo*

***Burr House***  
***628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue***

## California Bungalow in Rockwood Has Novel Features



On plans which he brought with him from Los Angeles, A. M. Laing has just completed the erection of a very artistic bungalow on Eighteenth avenue in the Rockwood district. The house is finished on the architectural lines of the California bungalows. The low flat roofs, broad porches and pergola are exterior features of the construction.

The bungalow is finished with five-rooms, with room for three upstairs if it is decided to complete them. It is

finished with hardwood floors and is strictly modern in every respect.

All the built-in features are included in this novel home. In addition to a wide fireplace in the living room, with built-in bookcases on each side, there is a built-in sideboard and the kitchen is equipped with all the time and labor-saving devices. The house cost approximately \$3800.

Laing built the bungalow for investment purposes. J. W. Rouse, a local real estate man, is building a residence for himself on the same general plans.

### **“California Bungalow in Rockwood Has Novel Features.” Spokesman-Review, June 13, 1912**

*This featured home is located at 1110 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Spokane, WA. The design of the dwelling is identical to the historic Burr House, 628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Spokane, WA, also built in 1912 by the same Spokane builder/developer, A. M. Laing.*

## SPOKANE MAN DROWNS WHILE DUCK HUNTING

—  
Monroe V. Burr, age 45, 8820 1-3 Monroe street, formerly of the Burr Electrical company, was stricken with a heart attack while hunting in a collapsible duck boat on Little Medical lake yesterday afternoon, fell from the boat and was drowned.

His nephew, Roy Thurston of Hill-yard, was with Mr. Burr and was thrown into the water when the boat capsized. He clung to the boat until Mrs. Fred Galbraith, wife of a farmer living near the lake shore rowed out from shore and pulled him to safety.

Mr. Burr had been a resident of Spokane for 33 years and is survived by his widow, Iva, and one daughter, Dorothy. He also leaves three brothers, R. R. and L. G. of Spokane, and L. M., San Francisco, and a sister, Mrs. Mary Thurston of Spokane. He was a member of the Elks lodge and the Knights of Pythias. The body is at Smith & Co.'s waiting funeral arrangements.

*M. V. Burr, First Homeowner of Burr House*

“Spokane Man Drowns While Duck Hunting.”  
*Spokane Daily Chronicle,*  
13 October 1924

**Allister (Mack) Laing.** Funera services for Mr. Laing at 2 p. m. Wednesday in the Fred G. Marshall Sons Parlors, 3462 E. Jefferson Ave. Cremation at Woodmere Cemetery.

Mr. Laing, who died Sunday at his home, 5111 Beaconsfield Ave., was born in Essex, Ont., 59 years ago, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Laing. From 1900 to 1911 he lived in Detroit and then went to Spokane, Wash., where for 15 years he was manager of Bradstreet, Inc., credit reporting agency. Three years ago he returned to Detroit and entered the real estate business. While in Spokane he was an elder of the Presbyterian church and a member of the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce.

He leaves his wife, Mamie; two sisters, Mrs. W. S. Hill and Mrs. Norman E. Badger, and three brothers, Ernest N., A. Edison and H. Frederick Laing.

***A. M. Laing, Builder/Developer of the Burr House***

“Obituary: Allister Mack Laing.”

*Detroit Free Press,*

30 March 1938

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Historic Burr House – 628 E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
North façade in 2016*

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Northeast corner of home's north façade in 2016*



*South rear elevation in 2016*

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*East elevation in 2016*

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*West elevation in 2016*



Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Front porch at northeast corner in 2016, looking northeast*



*Front porch northwest corner in 2016, looking northwest*

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Living room in 2016, looking southwest*



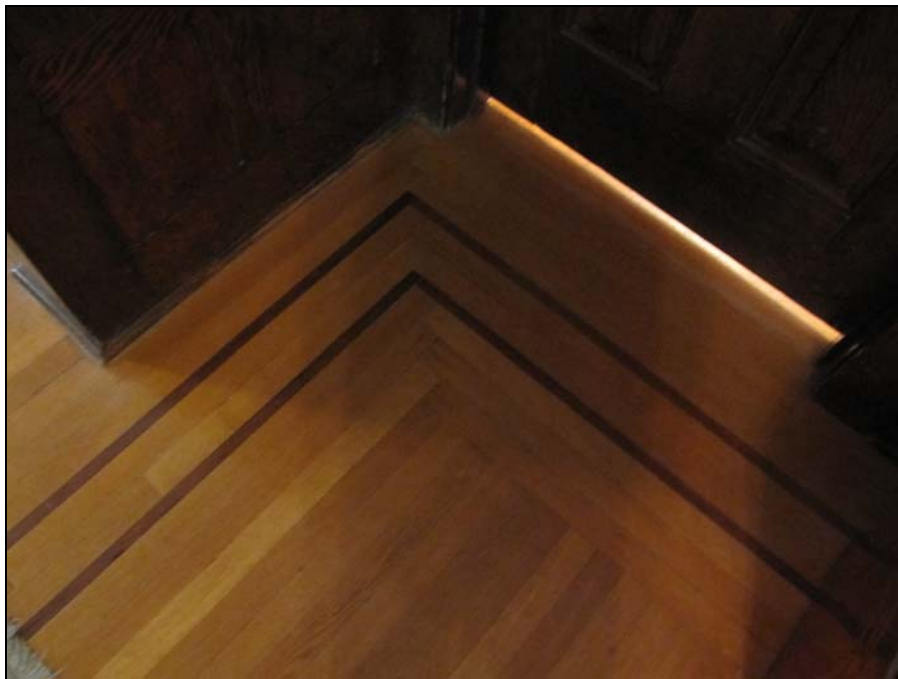
*Living room in 2016, looking northwest*

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
MUNROE & HELEN BURR HOUSE

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*Living room fireplace and built-in bookcase in 2016, looking south*



*Oak floor with mahogany/walnut inlaid perimeter strip in 2016*

Spokane City/County Register of Historic Places Nomination  
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*From living room to dining room in 2016, looking east*



*Dining room, looking northeast in 2016*

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*Dining room built-in buffet and hutch in 2016*

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*Kitchen in 2016, looking south*



*Family room in 2016, looking south*

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*Hallway built-in, looking west*



*Representative bedroom, looking west*

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*Rock retaining wall in 2016.  
Double-car garage in 2016.*