

NARRATIVE SECTION

Study Unit Architecture/Landscape Architecture	Other	Date Of Construction: <u>1892</u>
		Architect:
		Builder:
		Engineer:

Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places: No
Property is located in a historic district (National and/or local): No
Property potentially contributes to a historic district (National and/or local):

Statement of Significance The Hugh Ross house is a distinctively designed South Capitol Neighborhood Landmark whose appearance has changed from the original but has achieved historic significance. Its present design is distinctive in Olympia and reflects the changing tastes from Victorian to later styles. Ross was a Canadian native who came to Olympia with his wife Sarah E. Stubbs Ross in 1890 and formed a partnership with Robert Marr. The two operated a drug store in the old Reed Block for many years. Later Ross operated his own drug store at the corner of 6th (Legion Way) and Main for many years in the old Stuart Block. Ross was active in the Olympia West Side Lumber Mill, Olympia National Bank, and Olympia Light and Power Company. Mrs. Ross died in 1920 and Hugh Ross in 1921. Historic views of the home show a different roofline and wood instead of stucco cladding. Assessor's records indicate the remodeling was done in 1928 by Clyde and Dora Howey. Howey owned a grocery store on Capitol Way for many years. They remodeled the house to its present appearance.

Description of Physical Appearance The Ross House is a rectangular, two-and-one-half-story wood frame structure built in Foursquare style on a later concrete block foundation. The bellcast hip roof is covered with composition shingles and has wide bracketed eaves with exposed rafters; it has a gable on the front (east) facade, and an adjacent square turret with a bellcast pyramidal roof at the northeast corner. Walls are clad with stucco (not the original finish) and ornamented with wide horizontal banding below the front gable. Below the turret is a one-story porch with a bellcast hip roof and stucco arches, which shelters the main entry door. Above the porch is a double plate glass window fronted by a wrought iron window box. Other fenestration include ornate leaded and bevelled glass windows, plate glass windows with stained glass transoms, double and single-hung sash with one-over-one lights and multi-paned casements. A one-story enclosed porch with a gable roof projects from the south facade.

Major Bibliographic References Obituary for Hugh Ross, Daily Olympian, August 6, 1921, p. 1.
1903 Promotional Booklet for Olympia.
Pioneer Title Company Records.
Polk City Directories.
Probate Cause #2721 for Hugh Ross.
Thurston County Assessor's Records.

PHOTOS



View of northeast corner
taken 9/27/1995
Photography Neg. No. (Roll No./Frame No.):
21-19A
Comments: