

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Washington	
COUNTY: Whatcom	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 16 1972	

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Gamwell House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Gamwell House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1001 - 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bellingham

STATE: Washington

CONG. DISTRICT #2  
Honorable Lloyd Meeds

CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
53	Whatcom	073

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Marie M. Vosti

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1001 - 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bellingham

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Whatcom County Courthouse, Auditor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Whatcom County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bellingham

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

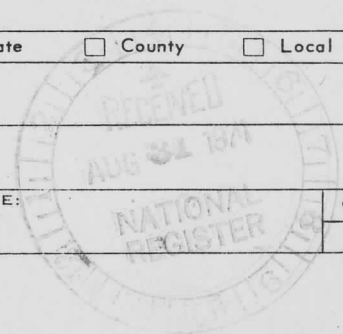
STATE: Washington

COUNTY: Whatcom

ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 16 1972

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FOR NPS USE ONLY



7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Gamwell House, built in the last years of the Victorian era, was designed by the architectural firm of Longstaff and Black, an eastern firm who had come from the Boston area to the Bellingham Bay real estate boom. The Gamwell House is probably the best example of the many fine Victorian homes that they designed in this area. It is a three story wood home with brick and concrete bulkhead, and has an extremely spacious interior, with only nine rooms within the three floors. The house took two years to complete, from 1890 to 1892, and was built with the best materials available. Plumbing, gas, electricity, and heating was installed.

The majority of the rooms had wood panelling in various hardwoods, and oak, mahogany, and redwood. The numerous fireplaces were flanked by specially designed mirrors. The central core of the house was the three story staircase, with beautifully carved ornamentation. Tall glass windows in the stairwell were set with colorful art glass patterns of floral arrangements.

The furnishings belonging to the Gamwells were mainly family heirlooms, so that the home was elegantly appointed with fine mahogany bookcases, gold leaf mirrors, Oriental rugs, and numerous other pieces. The home was occupied by the Gamwell family from 1892 until 1956, and they made very few changes to the house. The house is presently occupied by Mrs. William Vosti, and she plans to leave the home as unchanged as possible. Many of the original furnishings are still with the house, so that it retains the same character as it had when it was completed in 1892.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**3. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                        |                                       |                                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1892**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                                  |                                                 |                                                         |                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____                                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |                                                         | _____                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |                                                 |                                                         | _____                                          |

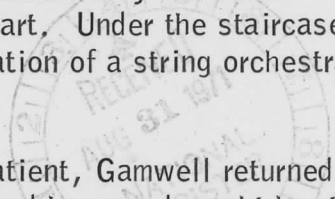
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Roland Greene Gamwell was from a prominent New England family, and he had come to the Pacific Northwest in 1889 after taking an engineering degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1886. He had been employed to survey and extend the interurban rail system around Tacoma, Washington. There he met Nelson Bennett, a high financier with much interests around the Bellingham Bay area, and Gamwell was intrigued with the proposed development of the town of Fairhaven, now a part of Bellingham. Gamwell arrived in Fairhaven on August 15, 1889, and commissioned the Gamwell House to be built in 1890, by the architectural firm of Longstaff and Black, who had been partners since they had left the Boston area, and whose firm had been commissioned to design the fabulous Fairhaven Hotel and many other fine residences and buildings of the area. The house was to be one of the most elegant of the Victorian mansions built in the Pacific Northwest, and was of more progressive design, with extremely spacious rooms, a stairwell three stories high, lined with windows done in colorful Victorian "art glass" patterns, walls of fine wood panelling, and fancy gas lamps throughout the house. The large curving staircase was handcarved of hardwoods, and the Italian carver-craftsmen were brought from employment in Seattle, where they had been decorating the interurban railway stations with their art. Under the staircase, was built a niche with a raised platform, for the location of a string orchestra for private concerts.

The house took two years to build, and growing impatient, Gamwell returned to New England to marry his fiancée, Helen Thacher, and he soon brought her to Fairhaven. The young couple moved into the Fairhaven Hotel with all their family heirlooms, silver, linens, and fine furnishings, until the house was completed in July, 1892. They opened the house with the most elegant housewarming party that the area residents had ever seen, and thus began a period of dignified social life and refined culture that had been lacking in this area.

The Bellingham Bay area had been settled by men of the lumber, coal, and fishing trade, and had experienced real estate booms and busts, and gold rush fever. By the 1890's, the businessmen adventurers such as Nelson Bennett, James Wardner, and Peter Larson, were heavily invested in real estate in the

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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# 8 (continued)

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

area, and were seeking to bring the western terminus of several intercontinental railroads into the area. Along with these men, the waterfront along Bellingham Bay was home for men of less distinguished names, with Welsh, English, and Irish miners, with Scandinavians and Chinese laborers, with Indians and the "ladies" of the extensive red light district, and overlooking this mixed group of people, the Gamwell House stood on the hillside above the bay.

Mr. Gamwell founded the Fairhaven Yacht Club in 1894, sponsored a champion whist team that played up and down the coast, and began a number of men's clubs such as the Kulshan Club and a chapter of the Elks. The Gamwells held lawn tennis matches at their home, and people eagerly responded to invitations for cotillions and concerts in the Gamwell House. Mr. Gamwell brought about the establishment of the Fairhaven and Bellingham Public Libraries. He was also noted as a horticulturalist of new varieties of roses, and the home was surrounded by his rose gardens. Mrs. Gamwell was often the official hostess for any notables that passed through Bellingham and William Howard Taft and Samuel Clemens were guests in the Gamwell House. The Gamwells made a first and continuing contribution of an elegant and cultured social life to a boom town that sorely needed such an influence. This ended in 1944 when Mrs. Gamwell died in the house built for her, and in 1956, in his sixty-seventh summer, after a prominent business and social life, Mr. Gamwell passed away at the age of ninety-six.

The house was left unoccupied for awhile, and the present owner, Mrs. William Vosti, a librarian at Western Washington State College, is attempting with the encouragement of Mrs. Glen Hyatt of Vancouver, B. C., the only child of the Gamwells, to restore the house and all of the original furnishings, just as it was in 1892 when Roland and Helen Gamwell gave their first garden party to announce the arrival of a new social life to the raw little communities on Bellingham Bay.



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Connelly, Dolly. "The Roland Gamwell Home", article later published in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, April 2, 1967.

McDonald, Lucille. Where the Washingtonians Lived. Superior Press, Seattle Washington, 1969.

Roth, Lottie Roeder, Supervising Editor. History of Whatcom County, two volumes. Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, Chicago and Seattle, 1926.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		48	43	26
NE	° ' "	° ' "		122	29	44
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

NO  
UTM  
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.3 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY** under supervision of Susan H. L. Barrow, Liaison Officer

NAME AND TITLE:  
by: Charlotte V. Schneider, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Whatcom Museum of History and Art DATE: May 1, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
121 Prospect Street

CITY OR TOWN: Bellingham STATE: Washington 98225 CODE: 53

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Charles H. Odegaard  
Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director - Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date August 27, 1971

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ewert Allen Connelly  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date MAR 16 1972

ATTEST:

William M. Mouton  
Keeper of The National Register

Date JAN 9 1972

Garnwell House

Whatcom

72001282

Wash.

RECEIPT	PROPERTY	STATE	REGISTER NUMBER
DATE OF RECEIPT <u>8/31/71</u>	YES	NO	NUMBER
DATA PAGE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
PHOTO (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		7
PHOTO DESCRIP (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
MAP (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
MAP DESCRIPTION (S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		1
LOGGED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
ACKNOWLEDGE <u>8/31/71</u>			
RESUBMIT			

MAR 16 1972

5-15-72

Ejtch 10/4/71

REVIEW *This is really a fine home. Betsey, since it looks virtually the same as it did in 1900, how about using the wood engraving vignette - photo #4 - in the book? It would be a nice change from all photographs -* OK means 10/6/71

HISTORIAN *Very good.* Hanger Nov 16-71

ARCHEOLOGIST OK 3<sup>rd</sup> Marston 10/18/71

ARCHITECT OK Chambers 10-19-71

ASST. KEEPER

KEEPER OK Wm 1/3/72

ENTRY

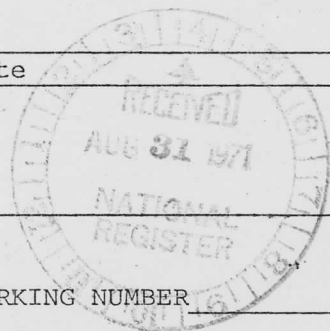
CHIEF, OAHP Ell 3-16

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR

Federal Register Entry 4-4-72 Date

Annual Edition Entry

Logged MAR 16 1972  
Card MAR 16 1972



WORKING NUMBER 8,31,71.1

COMMENTS:

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Lloyd Meeds



Residence of Roland J. Gamewell  
16 1/2 W. Douglas Sts.  
Fairhaven Washington

NRS Number 3-16-72

Title: Gamwell House

Loc. Whatcom, Wash.

Architectural drawings,  
view of front entrance

Wm. Co

①

①

PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
GALLEN EERRY  
1023 - 15th STREET  
BILLSGATE, WASH.  
NEG. I.O.  
DATE  
DESCRIPTION

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Pen & Ink  
Black  
Architects

North Side Elevation  
Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)*

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Whatcom	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER WA 1001	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Gamwell House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1001 - 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bellingham

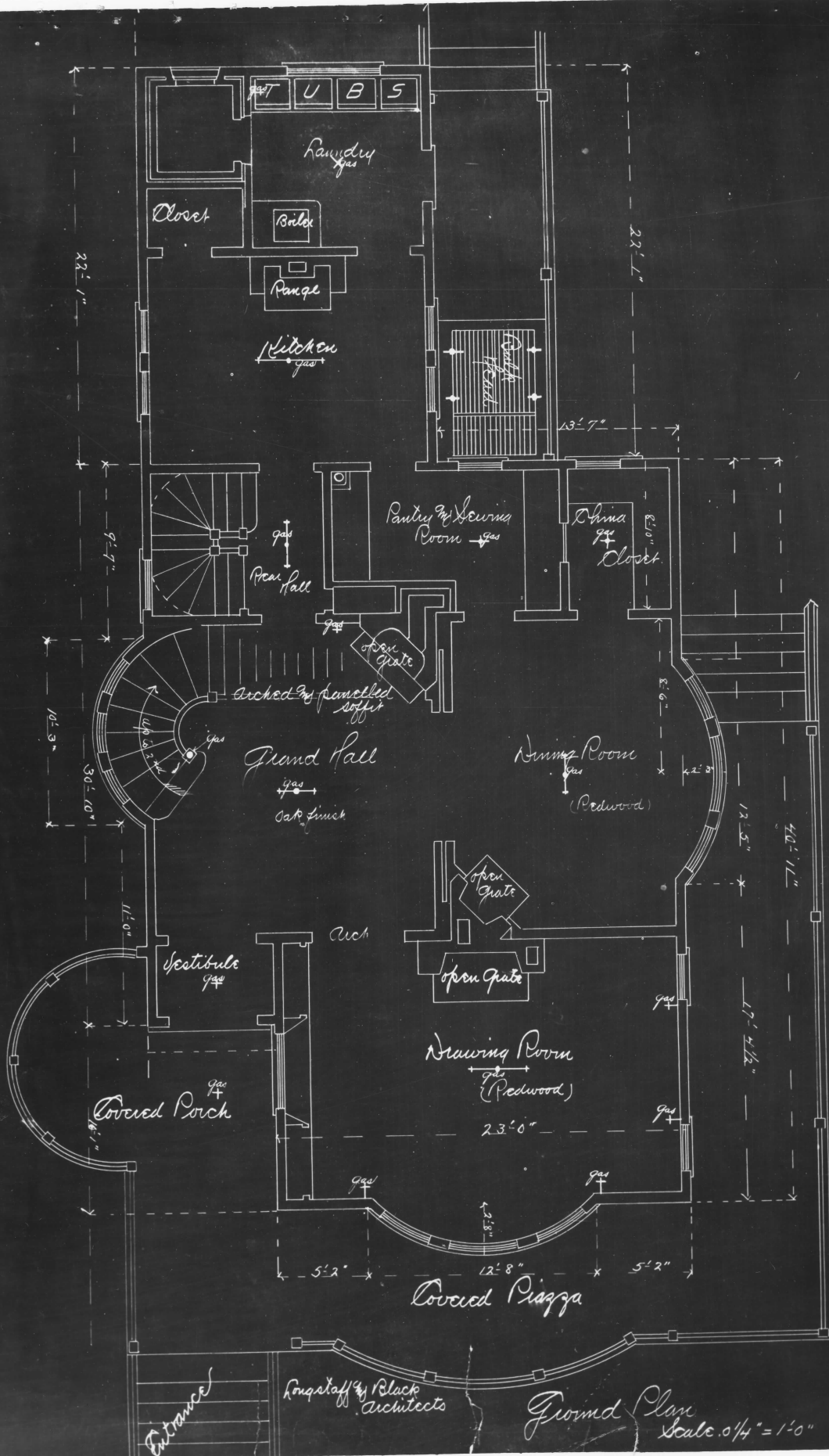
STATE: Washington	CODE 53	COUNTY: Whatcom	CODE 073
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**3. PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT: Galen Biery  
DATE OF PHOTO: 1969  
NEGATIVE FILED AT:  
Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington

**4. IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  
  
Photo # 2 - Architectural drawing of Gamwell House, North side.



Longstaff & Black Architects

Ground Plan Scale 1/4" = 1'-0"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Whatcom	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER MAR 15 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gamwell House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

1001 - 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Bellingham

STATE:

Washington

CODE

53

COUNTY:

Whatcom

CODE

073

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Galen Biery

DATE OF PHOTO: 1969

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Photo # 3- Architectural drawing of the Gamwell House, floor plan,  
main floor.



No. 1. ROLAND G. GAMWELL  
 No. 2. COLONEL WILL. L. VISSCHER  
 No. 3. LONGSTAFF & BLACK  
 No. 4. A. H. CLARK.



FAIRHAVEN RESIDENCES.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 16	1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gamwell House

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3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Galen Biery

DATE OF PHOTO: 1969

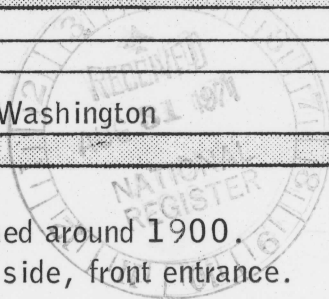
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington

4. IDENTIFICATION

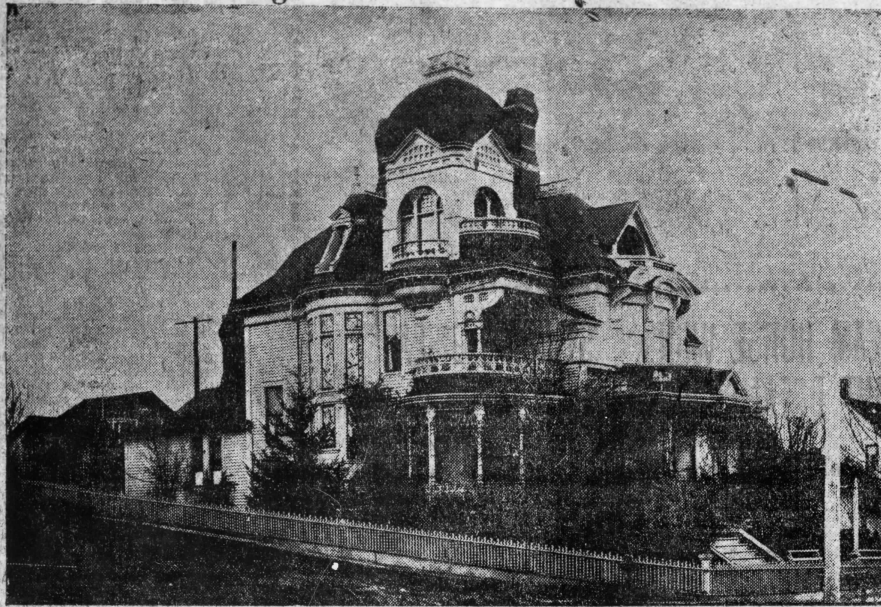
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Photo # 4 - copy from engravings in book published around 1900.  
Upper left engraving shows the Gamwell House, west side, front entrance.



# Bellingham Beautiful Home Series--No. 10 BRICK BLOCKS

## ARE TAKING PREFERENCE



R. G. GAMWELL RESIDENCE ON SIXTEENTH STREET.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Gamwell, at the corner of Douglas and Sixteenth streets is the type of the modern French Renaissance architecture. It is surrounded with a terraced lawn and three large and well arranged flower gardens in which may be found many of the choicest flowers grown in all parts of the world, having at least a semi-tropical climate. Rare specimens from Japan, sub foliage with equally rare plants from England, Germany, or the South of France, making a perfect and beautiful setting for the handsome structure.

The house was built nearly fourteen years ago, but maintains the careful detail of all the wood carvings and the decorations of the interior as though it had been built but a year ago. Artisans, who plied their trade throughout the structure can return today and point with pride to the intricate carvings as well as the more substantial portions of the building, which was built at the time when the best of labor could be secured on the coast.

The building is three and four stories high with a large basement under all, and the many overhanging cornices, the tower and the many balconies are the characteristics of the style of architecture.

The paneled oak front vestibule leads to a hall where the wood carver carried out the most beautiful designs in solid oak. The skill of the most adept is recognized throughout. The staircase is wide and leads with a beautiful curve to the second floor surmounted by a railing in which the carving follows the early style of the Corinthian designs. The staircase is supported in different places by protruding beams, all carved in figures, which are carved with the three faces is crowned by a human face telling a story of life. The central panel bears the face of a beautiful Grecian maiden, while on either side appears the face of a suitor. One is wreathed in smiles proclaiming that his love has been rewarded, while the other's countenance is gloomy and foreboding, showing perfectly his chagrin at being an unsuccessful suitor.

The large art window showing in the center of the side facade in the above cut is very wide and high. It is in stained glass of blue, green and amber, with the blue predominating to correspond with the color scheme found. The taste of the host and hostess is here exemplified for they are great lovers of flowers.

The center section of the window contains a large flower pot with a

growing plant. The many branches of the plant cross the side and upper panels, showing the large leaves and blossoms of a tropical plant, the entire window being a perfect work of art. The window furnishes much light upon the stairs, although the shades are delicately tinted.

The furnishings of the room appear in oak, as does the highly polished floor, while the hangings are in a dull old blue. The grate-arms showing the ancestry of two of the oldest and most respected families of New England, of which Mr. and Mrs. Gamwell are descendants, hang upon the wall in a prominent position.

### Commodious Drawing Room.

The main drawing room is found in the front of the building with large doors opening from the hall. The room is in white and gold. A large bay window has an exposure upon the bay, and overlooks the city as well, making a pretty room for a living room, which is in general demand by the entire family.

A fireplace ten feet wide with the bevel plate mirrors in white panels, reaching to the ceiling, is the chief decoration in the room. All the woodwork on the mantle is delicately carved, as well as that in the hall, but the material is redwood. The mirrors are in many shapes and were made to order by an eastern firm. There are large electrolers pendant from the ceiling and projecting from the side walls, and all metal trimmings in this room are lacquered in light tones, while the hall is in dark to correspond with the dark oak.

### Diningroom Is in Buff.

The dining room is one of the largest rooms in the house and opens to the right of the hall from the main entrance. The color scheme is in buff and white. The wall is hung with a tapestry paper in which the buff is the prevailing tone, with a drop ceiling very low in dull white. On one side the matched molding between the two shades forms the plate rack for a great number of fancy plates, both heirlooms and modern pieces of pottery.

The fireplace in this room has large mirrors surrounded by wood work in a dark mahogany and dark brass trimmings for the andirons. A large bay window furnishes an ample amount of light to relieve the color in the furniture, which is genuine mahogany, gradually growing darker in shading with old age. The room has a southern exposure, which makes a comfortable morning room, but it is somewhat shadowed by the large veranda running around the entire side of the building.

A very large china and wine closet opens from the dining room. It is paneled in highly polished redwood and the wine closet is spacious and well fitted. Choice china is found in every section of the closet, as well as

old heirlooms in pewter, well cared for by the younger generation.

The butler's pantry connects the dining room with the kitchen and it contains a large warming closet heated with steam, making it possible to serve an elaborate dinner with ease. The walls are paneled in cases with all the necessary articles for serving and the floor in it and the kitchen is as highly polished as in the drawing room.

Adjoining the kitchen in the rear is the laundry and a cold storage apartment for wines and meats. A wide stairs leads from the kitchen to the second floor.

The second floor is given over to the bedrooms and a large sewing room, and a different finish is found in each room. The bath and linen closets are also on this floor. The guest chamber is in gold, white and pink, the wood being painted redwood. The furnishings are elaborate in birdseye maple. The fireplace and mantle is in white.

The main chamber is in tapestry pattern of blue with a design in violets. The finish is in mahogany as is all on the furnishings. The fireplace is really one of the most elaborate in the building, having large pier glass mirrors on either side, extending to the floor from the mantle, which is surmounted by a like mirror of ample proportions.

The room leads to the dressing room for the hostess, and it is well supplied with a marble lavatory and dressing table, large linen and dress closets. This room connects with the bath room, where the original polish is distinctly natural in the highly finished wainscoting in mahogany with the walls above appearing in a dull shade of green. The fittings are in marble and nickel.

### Unique Sewing Room.

The sewing room or private sitting room is very unique for a means of lighting from the art window on the stairs is given by an opening in the side wall. There are wide French windows opening upon the balcony on the other side and a western exposure is given the room. It is in a dull pink.

The maid's room is just across the hall and also fine old cedar linen closets.

A second staircase leads to the third floor, which is given up to extra chambers and the apartments occupied by Miss Gamwell. The bed chamber opens upon the balcony from the third floor and also into the boudoir, which in turn opens with French windows upon a side balcony. The color scheme is in light in the sleeping apartment, while the boudoir is celled in native cedar. The view of the city and the bay from this room is magnificent. All in all the house is one of the very best equipped in point of plumbing, finish and architecture in the entire city.

Values Amounting to Nearly \$300,000 Are Not Named In Permits, Because Registering Was Not Demanded Until Year Was Practically At An End.

### PRACTICE IS COMPULSORY

New City Ordinance Will Make An Exact Showing of Statistics In the Coming Year.

The people who have been connected with the building circles of the year just closed, had the review gratifying in the extreme from the point of the percentage in the increase in all portions of the city and particularly in the downtown business section. But the exact figures which are the only criterion for the out-of-town buyer, who expects to locate here in the coming year, will not substantiate the general belief that this was the best of the past three years. There is a reason, however, which will not need to be extended with in the new year, namely, the disinclination of the average builder of large buildings to register the permit for the new streets. Up to October 24 the number of voluntary and the record is not clearly.

By the new ordinance the provisions of which appear in this column, the list for the new year will be complete inasmuch as an approximate estimate of building permits correct in a register of that kind.

The exact copy of the register gives 235 for a total and the sum nets \$312,100. To this sum should be added the McCleod store and apartment house on Elk street, the Exchange building at the corner of Elk and Holly, and the Telephone Exchange on Chestnut street, besides several residences in various sections of the city. The first three buildings will total at the least estimate \$230,000.

From the most careful statistics compiled from year to year the following items have been prepared, showing the building permits for the past three years in the record from month to month. For the present year:

January, 26, valued at	\$17,200
February, 19, valued at	20,350
March, 30, valued at	52,760
April, 21, valued at	26,600
May, 18, valued at	30,950
June, 13, valued at	12,550
July, 19, valued at	24,450
August, 10, valued at	7,900
September, 16, valued at	25,945
October, 23, valued at	38,900
November, 20, valued at	27,735
December, 20, valued at	27,740

This closes with the last permit recorded December 23. The class of buildings is as diversified as the size of the city will permit. One new hotel structure erected by Swanson Pearson at the corner of Elk and Ivy streets; two storage additions to the Bellingham Bay Brewery; brick business blocks erected by Dey & Clark, F. J. Barlow and N. S. Dahlquist; the three story brick building erected by John E. Rice at 1312-14-16-18 Dock street; the Dellinger block on Elk street; the Perry roller skating rink and the Bay Brewery; brick building constructed on Holly street; the Tome Telephone Exchange building on Dock street; the Swedish Mission church on Willow street; the parsonage for the United Presbyterian congregation and the remodeled Sunset block at the corner of Elk and Holly.

### 301 Permits for 1905.

For a marked contrast the year 1905 shows that the building permits

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Washington	
COUNTY	
Whatcom	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 16 1972	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Gamwell House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

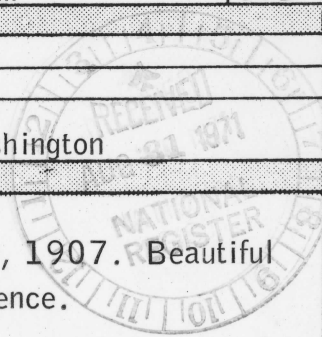
STREET AND NUMBER:  
1001 - 16th Street  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Bellingham  
STATE: Washington CODE 53 COUNTY: Whatcom CODE 073

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Galen Biery  
DATE OF PHOTO: 1969  
NEGATIVE FILED AT:  
Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  
Photo # 5 - copy from "Bellingham Herald", January, 1907. Beautiful Home Series, Number 10. Description of Gamwell Residence.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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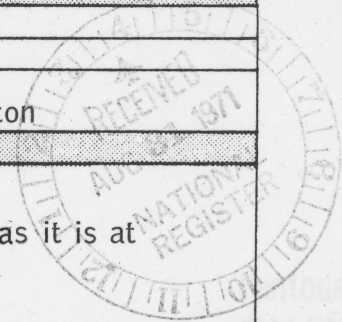
STREET AND NUMBER:  
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  
  
Photo # 6 - west side, front entrance of Gamwell House, as it is at present.





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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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COUNTY Whatcom	
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**1. NAME**

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STREET AND NUMBER:  
1001 - 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bellingham

STATE: Washington	CODE 53	COUNTY: Whatcom	CODE 073
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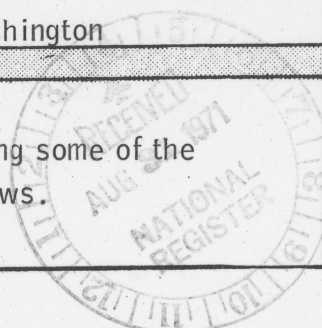
**3. PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT: Galen Biery  
DATE OF PHOTO: 1967 or 1968  
NEGATIVE FILED AT:  
Galen Biery, 1023 - 13th Street, Bellingham, Washington

**4. IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Photo # 7 - Interior, main hall and staircase, showing some of the original furniture, lights, stairwell with "art glass" windows.



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE	Washington
COUNTY	Whatcom
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 16 1972	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Gamwell House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1001 - 16th Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Bellingham**

STATE: <b>Washington</b>	CODE <b>53</b>	COUNTY: <b>Whatcom</b>	CODE <b>073</b>
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**3. MAP REFERENCE**

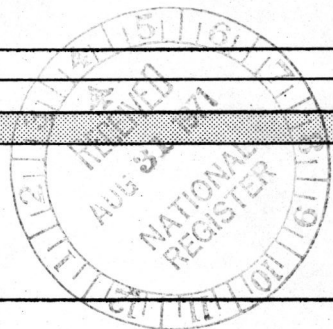
SOURCE:  
**U. S. G. S., Bellingham South Quadrangle**

SCALE: **1:24000**

DATE: **1954**

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
  2. North arrow.
  3. Latitude and longitude reference.







DANIEL J. EVANS  
GOVERNOR



COMMISSIONERS:  
MRS. ELEANOR BERGER  
JEFF D. DOMASKIN  
THOMAS C. GARRETT  
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CHARLES H. ODEGAARD,  
DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON STATE  
**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

7150 CLEANWATER LANE

PHONE 753-5755

THURSTON AIRINDUSTRIAL CENTER P. O. BOX 1128 OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98501

August 27, 1971

Dr. William J. Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
801 - 19th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Mr. Murtagh:

The following nominations have received favorable review and are herewith submitted for National Register consideration:

1. Gamwell House
2. Schooner "Equator"
3. Grays River Covered Bridge

Sincerely,

Douglas M. Whisman, Chief  
Office of Archaeology and  
Historic Preservation

DW:kj

Enclosures



AUG 30 1971

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE WASHINGTON

Date Entered MAR 16 1972

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Colman Building	Seattle King County
Ward Home	Seattle King County
Garwell House	Bellingham Whatcom County
Parson Smith Tree	Okanogan County
Tatoosh Island	Clallan County
Pangborn-Herndon Memorial	Douglas County
snagboat "W. T. Preston"	Seattle King County
Horseshief Lake State Park	Klickitat County
Park Department, Division of Playgrounds	Seattle King County
Assay Office (German Club)	Seattle King County

Also Notified

Hon. Warren G. Magnuson	State Liaison Officer
Hon. Henry M. Jackson	Mr. Charles H. Odegaard
Hon. Brock Adams	Director
Hon. Lloyd Meeds	Washington State Parks and Recreation
Hon. Thomas S. Foley	Commission
Hon. Thomas H. Pully	Post Office Box 1123
Hon. Mike McCormick	Olympia, Washington 98501
Director, Pacific Northwest Region	

HR

NRowland:mmm 3/9/72