

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

*This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).*

### 1. Name of Property

historic name HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 1638 S. Cedar Street  not for publication

city or town Spokane  vicinity

state WA code WA county Spokane code 036 zip code 99203

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this \_\_\_ nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide \_\_\_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria

\_\_\_ A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

WASHINGTON SHPO  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

\_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE  
Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		district
		site
	1	structure
		object
1	1	<b>Total</b>

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

None

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: SINGLE DWELLING

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: SINGLE DWELLING

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

AMERICAN FOURSQUARE

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE: BASALT

walls: WOOD: WEATHERBOARD

roof: ASPHALT

other: \_\_\_\_\_

**HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE**

Name of Property

**SPOKANE COUNTY, WA**

County and State

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### **Narrative Description**

*Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.*

### **NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

#### **Summary Paragraph**

Built in 1909, the Hill-Hilscher House is a prominent example of the American Foursquare type embellished in the Colonial Revival style. The property is sited at the corner of West Seventeenth Avenue and South Cedar Street, a busy arterial in a residential area of Cannon Hill Addition in southwest Spokane, Washington. The home's American Foursquare features include a box-like footprint and form, formal massing, low pitched hip roof, and widely overhanging boxed eaves. Colonial Revival style-elements are manifested as embellishments reflected in a formal appearance, symmetrically balanced fenestration patterns, a wide covered front porch, an accentuated center front entrance with a large front door and flanking sidelights, narrow-width horizontal wood clapboard siding, cornice/frieze/water table courses, and a prominent front-facing "Palladian-like" dormer at the center of the home's east façade. A single-story, two-car garage with an attached carport is located behind the house (non-contributing resource). Although it has had modifications over the last century, the Hill-Hilscher House is well-preserved and is in excellent condition. Well-conveying its original American Foursquare house form and Colonial Revival-style embellishment, the Hill-Hilscher House retains a high degree of exterior architectural integrity in original location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### **CURRENT APPEARANCE & CONDITION**

#### **Site**

The Hill-Hilscher House is located in the Cannon Hill Addition on Lots 7 and 8, Block 16, at the northwest corner of South Cedar Street and West Seventeenth Avenue on Spokane's South Hill. Together, the two lots measure 80 feet wide and 135 feet deep. The house is built in the center of both lots and faces east along South Cedar Street. The home is framed by a manicured lawn, evergreen shrubs and bushes, and mature deciduous and evergreen trees. A concrete sidewalk runs parallel to Cedar Street and Seventeenth Avenue in front of the home and around the southeast corner of the property. A graveled alley abuts the property at the rear west border. A single-family house is located next to the north elevation of the Hill House. The home is surrounded by a prominent historic tree-lined, single-family, residential neighborhood which was platted along a grid work of paved streets and roadways, and was developed with houses built from the early 1900s to 1950.

#### **Exterior**

The Hill-Hilscher House is a large two-and-one-half-story rectangular box with a low-pitched hip roof and a covered front porch. The house roof is covered with composition shingles and has four-foot-deep overhanging, boxed eaves. Soffits are clad with tongue-in-groove wood boards. Low-pitched hip roof dormers project from the center of north, south, and west roof slopes. A prominent "Palladian-like" dormer projects from the front-facing roof slope at the home's east facade. The home is clad with narrow-width horizontal wood clapboard siding. A prominent nine-inch-deep wood water table course separates the clapboard siding from the foundation. The foundation is made of basalt stone which has been cut into rectangular ashlar blocks. Round "bead" mortar joints articulate and separate the ashlar blocks. Windows include a combination of 1/1 double-hung, fixed-pane, and tripartite windows with a wood sash.

#### **East Façade**

The front of the house faces east along South Cedar Street and is distinguished with symmetrical fenestration patterns, a covered front porch at the first floor, a porch roof deck at the second floor above the front porch, and a center Palladian-style dormer. The Palladian window dormer is shaded with deeply overhanging eaves that curve up and around the top of a window pair in the dormer. The window pair features two matching 1/1 wood-sash double-hung units. A triangular-shaped molded wood keystone articulates the center top of the

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

window pair. With a Classic profile, a deeply molded wood cornice accentuates a 15-inch-deep frieze. The cornice and frieze courses are prominent at the Palladian window dormer, the eaves of the house, and the eaves of the front porch. A partial-width front porch extends across the east façade of the house and is covered with a very low-pitched hip roof with composition shingles and widely overhanging boxed eaves. The porch is supported by thick square piers. An enclosed porch wall protects the first-floor porch deck, which is made of painted fir planks. Like the house, the porch piers and porch wall are clad with horizontal narrow-width wood clapboard siding. The foundation for the porch is exposed and made of basalt stone ashlar. Ten-foot-wide concrete steps, which are flanked by a stepped basalt rock stairway wall, climb to the front porch from a concrete walkway in front of the house. The stepped stairway walls are capped with molded cast concrete coping. Forming a formal contrast in coloration, the trim on the house is painted in two tones of Classic white, the clapboard siding is painted deep blue, and the basalt foundation features natural black basalt which has been preserved with linseed oil. Fenestration is symmetrical and the first floor has three 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows.

*South Facade*

The south side of the house faces West Seventeenth Avenue and is considered a secondary facade. The south facade features symmetrical fenestration patterns with a center 1/1 double-hung wood-sash window pair in a center hip roof dormer, two large 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows at the second floor, and three 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows at the first floor. An original three-sided beveled bay at the first floor holds a center plate-glass picture window and two flanking 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows.

*North Facade*

The north side of the home is within a few yards of a single-family home next door. The north side of the Hill-Hilscher House has symmetrical fenestration patterns, a center hip roof dormer, and a small back porch at the northwest corner of the first floor. The porch is original and projects out six feet from the planar wall surface. It is covered with a flat roof of built-up tar, has an enclosed porch wall, and is supported by thick square wood porch piers. The piers and porch wall are clad in narrow-width clapboard siding that matches the rest of the house. Wood stairs with a plain wood balustrade descend from the porch to grade. At the first floor, an original 1/1 double-hung wood-sash window is located east of the porch and a shallow boxed bay. The bay has an original wood tripartite window with a fixed-pane flanked by two narrow casement windows. Each window pane is capped by a fixed transom light. The bay is finished with a flat roof, widely overhanging boxed eaves, a prominent cornice and frieze, and narrow-width horizontal wood clapboard siding. The foundation features a continuation of basalt ashlar and a prominent water table course which separates the foundation from the first floor.

*West Facade*

The west rear of the house faces the backyard and garage. Due to an alley, a garage, a carport, a fence, and dense foliage from trees and bushes, the rear of the house is only partially visible from the public right-of-way at Seventeenth Avenue. The west elevation of the house features a center hip-roof dormer, asymmetrical fenestration patterns, narrow-width clapboard siding, a back porch at the first and second floors, and an original tapered exterior stepped brick chimney, which projects through the roof eave at the southwest corner of the house. The porch (built in 1978) is made of wood with a plain wood balustrade, and is supported by wood posts which are anchored at grade. A wood staircase descends from the porch at the first floor to grade. The property's grade is at its lowest point at the rear of the house as the property slopes downhill west and north from the southeast corner of the lot. Due to the lower grade, the basalt rock foundation wall at the back of the house is exposed under the porch at the basement, and features two basement doors and a combination of 1/1 and multi-paned wood-sash windows. The basalt rock is mixed with granite in an informal rocky rubblemix instead of the formal-looking cut-stone ashlar exposed at the foundation on the north, south, and east sides of the house.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

### ***Interior***

The interior of the Hill-Hilscher House is extensive with over 4,000 square feet of finished interior space. An original solid fir front door with a beveled plate-glass full-light opens from the center of the east façade of the house into a small vestibule. The vestibule has a marble floor, original lathe-and-plaster construction, and an original beveled plate-glass door that opens to a formal center reception hall. Both the front door and the vestibule door are flanked by symmetrical sidelights with wood sash and frame.

The formal reception hall has an original solid oak floor, white-painted woodwork, and is dominated by a formal grand staircase that rises without a landing to the second floor. The staircase is wide at five feet and is articulated with a closed stringer, high-gloss ebony-finish oak treads, ebony-finish handrail, and a white-painted balustrade. The balustrade features an unusual design with plain square wood balusters which are embellished with paneled Maltese cross designs. The grand staircase flares outward in a graceful curved arc at the bottom southeast corner of the stairs at the lowest two steps. A hexagonal Newell post is anchored to the second step from the first floor.

The reception hall leads north to a formal dining room, south to a formal front parlor/sitting room, west through the parlor to a living room, and west from the reception hall to the rear of the house, which contains a kitchen, and powder room. The dining room is located in the northeast corner of the house. It is embellished with boxed ceiling beams, a tripartite window in a shallow boxed window bay with a 12-inch-deep interior window sill, multi-paned French doors, and a solid oak floor. The white-painted woodwork is original and features deep crown molding, floor molding, and window and door surrounds. The doors and windows are capped with Classic molded ornamental door and window hoods which are supported by decorative brackets. Multi-paned French doors on the east wall of the dining room open east into a sun room. The sunroom is located in the north end of the front porch which was enclosed in 1981.<sup>1</sup> The sunroom has a ceramic tile floor, sheetrock walls and ceiling, and is illuminated by three pairs of 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows. Original multi-paned French doors on the south wall of the dining room open into the center reception hall.

A matching pair of original five-panel, painted-wood pocket doors open south from the reception hall into a formal front parlor/sitting room in the front southeast corner of the first floor of the house. The sitting room has original lathe-and-plaster construction, a 24-inch-deep frieze, white-painted woodwork, oak floor (covered with wall-to-wall carpet), and a second pair of original five-panel painted pocket doors that open west into a living/family room.

A living room is located in the rear southeast corner of the first floor of the house and is dominated by two features: a beveled bay window on the south wall and a prominent fireplace with flanking bookcases on the west wall. The fireplace has a marble surround and hearth which were installed in the 1990s. A plain wood mantel extends past both ends of the fireplace and covers the tops of flanking built-in bookcases. The mantel and bookcases are painted white; the bookcases have glass doors.

A door on the north wall of the living room opens north to a service hallway which leads to a kitchen in the rear northwest corner of the house at the first floor. The kitchen was remodeled several times since the home was built in 1909, and currently features a 1995 remodel with an oak floor, built-in maple cupboards and cabinets, and free-standing and built-in appliances. A back door (original wood paneled with upper-leaf divided lights) opens to a back porch from the kitchen on the north wall. A powder room is located next south of the kitchen on the west wall. A door next to the powder room opens to a flight of stairs which were designed for use by domestic help, and lead up to the second and third floors. Another door opens to stairs which descend to the basement.

The most prominent feature on the second floor is a spacious center hall which is publically accessed by the formal grand staircase which rises from the center reception hall at the first floor (the second floor is also

<sup>1</sup> Spokane City Building Permit. Spokane City Hall, Spokane, WA.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

accessed by a narrow enclosed stairway at the west wall which was designed for use by domestic help). The grand staircase has an open stairwell at the second floor and is protected by a wood balustrade which encircles the open stairwell. The floor is solid oak, woodwork is painted white and includes floor molding, door and window surrounds, and picture rail molding. The central hallway opens to four bedrooms, two full bathrooms, and a narrow enclosed service staircase at the west wall. Interior doors open from the hall into bedrooms and feature five wood panels, are painted white, retain original brass hardware, and are capped with transom windows.

The attic was finished in 1978 as an apartment with a living area, kitchenette, bathroom, and two bedrooms. Finish materials include sheetrock walls and ceilings, combination carpet and vinyl floor, and 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows in the east, south, west, and north-facing dormers. The basement is finished with a mechanical/furnace/storage/shop room, a laundry room, recreation room, a bathroom, a cedar sauna, and an apartment with a kitchenette, one bedroom, bathroom, and living/dining area. Walls and ceilings feature a combination of knotty pine and painted drywall, and the floor is finished in a combination of poured concrete, wall-to-wall carpet, and vinyl. Heat throughout the house is forced-air gas.

### **SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATIONS**

Modifications to the home include:

1955: Kitchen remodeled (Spokane building permit #B 29725).

1957: Recreation room in basement finished (Spokane building permit #B 38778).

1978: Porch steps and landings built on west rear exterior wall of house at first and second floors (Spokane building permit B21653). A one-bedroom apartment finished in basement and a two-bedroom apartment finished in the attic. Aluminum-sash sliding windows installed in apartments (replaced original 1/1 wood-sash windows in attic).

1981: Original 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows replaced in first-floor front parlor/sitting room and living room and second-floor bedrooms with wood-sash sliding windows. North end of front porch (14 feet) enclosed for use as sunroom and enclosed with sliding aluminum sash windows (Spokane building permit # 0056A).

1982: Carport built onto south façade of garage. House and garage re-roofed with composition shingles (Spokane building permit #000A).

1984: Second kitchen remodel (Spokane building permit 000557).

1991-2002: Interior repairs, refinish, and remodels completed in kitchen, powder room, bathrooms, living room, front parlor/sitting room, basement recreation room, and dining room as electrical wiring, plumbing, plumbing fixtures, light fixtures, painted walls and ceilings, refinished floors, and new floor coverings. Exterior porch stairs at west rear of house repaired and repainted. Original side/back porch at north side of house repaired/repainted. House repainted inside.

2001: Composition roof installed over existing composition roof.

2005-2007: Original horizontal wood clapboard siding and tongue-in-groove soffit repaired, restored, repainted. Exterior trim repaired and repainted. Basalt rock foundation repaired and treated with linseed oil preservative. Circa 1978 Palladian dormer windows replaced with 1/1 double-hung wood-sash window pair, and circa 1981 aluminum-sash sunroom windows replaced with 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows that match original 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows in house.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

*Nov-Dec 2007:* Architecturally compatible 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows which match design and measurements of original 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows at house and as pictured in a 1959 Spokane County Tax Assessor photograph replaced windows installed in 1981.

#### **GARAGE/CARPORT**

The garage, parallel to the rear alley, was built in 1909. It has a hip roof covered with asphalt shingles and boxed eaves, matching the design of the home. At the apex of the roof is a small wooden cupola. Remodeled in the mid-1950s the garage is clad with square asbestos shingles, covering the original horizontal wood clapboard siding. The original hinged carriage-style doors have been replaced with a single metal overhang door. In the 1980s a large carport was built and attached to the south facade of the garage. This open-sided structure has a hipped roof covered in asphalt shingles.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE  
Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

**Period of Significance**

1909 - 1948

**Significant Dates**

1909

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

HILL, CHARLES W.

HILSCHER, E. DURAND

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

UNKNOWN

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

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### Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

*Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.*

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Summary Statement

The Hill-Hilsher House in Spokane, Washington is historically significant under Criteria "B" for its association with Spokane printing leaders Charles W. Hill and E. D. Hilscher. The property was originally built for socially prominent Spokane residents, Charles W. & Lulu Cornelia Hill. Charles was founder and president of the C. W. Hill Printing Company organized in 1908.<sup>ii</sup> The home was eventually purchased by their daughter, Edna and her husband, E. Durand Hilscher, who were resided in the home from 1920 to 1948. E. Durand Hilscher succeeded his father-in-law, as the president/general manager of the C. W. Hill Printing Company after C. W. Hill's death in 1937. During their combined tenures/ownership of the printing company, it was recognized as as "one of the best-equipped lithographing and printing departments in the Pacific Northwest."<sup>iii</sup> As one of the longest-running printers in Spokane, the C. W. Hill Company was also praised as a "leader in use of modern equipment."<sup>iv</sup>

The Hill-Hilscher House is also significant under Criteria "C" as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its period of construction as an example of the American Foursquare type with Colonial Revival-style embellishment. Built in 1909, the Hill-Hilscher House was one of the first and finest homes built in the Cannon Hill Addition in the southwest section of Spokane's residential South Hill area. The period of significance begins in 1909, the date the home was built, and ends in 1948 the year the Hilschers sold the property.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

### Cannon Hill Addition

The Cannon Hill Addition, platted in 1903, is located in the southwest section of Spokane's South Hill between West Fourteenth and Twenty-First Avenues and between South Chestnut and Cedar Streets. The addition follows Cedar Street as it runs south uphill from downtown Spokane, and includes some rather extreme topography. A high basalt bluff bisects the addition along a north-south axis. Besides the platted lots east of the bluff at the top of the plateau, the Cannon Hill Addition includes the bluff's steep west-facing hillside and the bluff's base which is located 500 feet below the bluff's edge in Hangman Creek Valley. In 1903, the area was characterized by its extreme topography, basalt rock outcroppings, pine trees, and wild grasses. Residential development of the neighborhood began in 1906—just three years prior to the construction of the Hill-Hilscher House.

Of the 200-plus homes built at the top of the bluff east to Cedar Street, the Hill-Hilscher House stands out as one of the finest, largest, and earliest homes erected in the Cannon Hill Addition. The first and largest homes in the neighborhood were built between 1906 and 1912, a time period which included the construction of the Hill-Hilscher House.<sup>ix</sup> The Hill-Hilscher's House fine craftsmanship, stylistic details, modern architecture (for that time), and large expansive size illustrate the trend associated with custom-designed domestic architecture that permeated prominent residential neighborhoods across the South Hill in Spokane during the early 1900s. Both small and large homes were built in the Cannon Hill Addition around the time the Hill-Hilscher House was erected in 1909, but the vast majority of homes constructed in the neighborhood were built between 1920 and 1950. They were smaller Craftsman-style bungalows, Tudor, Spanish, and Colonial Revival cottages, and plain vernacular dwellings. The largest homes in the neighborhood were built between 1906 and 1912, and are examples of revivals and the Arts & Crafts tradition. High-style landmark examples include a Dutch Colonial Revival-style house at 1418 S. Maple (1906), a Craftsman-style example at 1526 S. Ash (1910), and

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<sup>ii</sup> "Charles W. Hill, Death's Victim." *Spokesman-Review*, 13 Jan 1937, p. 7.

<sup>iii</sup> "Hill Printing Plant Among Best Equipped." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 June 1940.

<sup>iv</sup> "Pioneer Spokane Printing Firm Leader in Modern Equipment." First National Bank advertisement, *Spokesman-Review*, 31 July 1963.

<sup>ix</sup> Spokane County Tax Assessor records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

a Pasadena-type Craftsman-style bungalow at 1708 S. Maple Boulevard (Levesque-Majer House, built in 1912). In contrast to the aforementioned older homes in the neighborhood, the Hill-Hilscher House is the only American Foursquare Colonial Revival-style residence in the Cannon Hill Addition.

In August 1908, Spokane real estate investor Alice Sullivan sold Lots 7 and 8 in Block 16 in the Cannon Hill Addition to Charles W. Hill. The cost of the property was \$2,000. C. W. Hill commissioned a home in 1909. Charles Hill and his wife, Lulu, owned the nominated house for 28 years until C. W. Hill's death in 1937. After Charles passed away, Edna gave the property to their daughter, Edna Hill Hilscher, and her husband, E. D. Hilscher. Recorded in Spokane County warranty deeds, Lulu Hill gifted the property "in love and affection"<sup>x</sup> to her daughter, Edna Hill Hilscher, and Edna's husband, E. Durand Hilscher. The Hilschers sold the property in 1948.

After that, the Hill-Hilscher House changed ownership several times. In 1948, the Hilschers sold the property to Ireta & Edward Pattison, an owner/manager of the Crescent Department Store in downtown Spokane. The Pattisons then sold the property in 1953 to Evelyn & Gordon Bowden, director of Metro Mortgage & Securities. Margaret & John Roble, general manager of New York Life Insurance Company in Spokane, purchased the property in 1955, and sold the house in 1958 to Leo & Marion Driscoll for \$17,900. Leo Driscoll worked as an attorney for the Keith Winston & Repsold law firm in Spokane. After his wife's death, Leo Driscoll sold the house to Donald & Sandra Turnbough in 1971. In 1977, Virgil & Katharina Worden bought the property for \$54,950. Employed as a pressman for the *Spokesman-Review* newspaper in Spokane, Virgil and his wife, Katharina, were also employed by the German-American Society, 25 W. Third Avenue. The Wordens finished the basement and attic of the Hill-Hilscher House with two apartment suites offered for use to visiting members of the German-American Society. In 1989, Thomas & Eva Avildsen bought the Hill-Hilscher House for \$87,500. A few years later, they sold the property for \$164,500 to Dr. Kathleen Meyer, a Spokane neurosurgeon who has sensitively restored and rehabilitated the property.

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

### ***Charles W. and Lulu Cornelia Hill***

The original owner of the home was Charles Wesley Hill and his family. Charles was born in 1860 in New York.<sup>xi</sup> At 16, he moved to St. Paul, Minnesota and began setting type for the *St. Paul Morning Union* newspaper. After working for other St. Paul newspapers, he became the first printer hired by the West Publishing company, the nation's largest law book publishers.

After publishing a newspaper in southern California for two years, he moved to Spokane where he founded the C. W. Hill Printing Company at 210 S. Howard Street in 1908. The company later relocated to 920 W. Riverside Avenue in the center of downtown Spokane and specialized in "general printing, catalogue [printing], thermograph printing, direct mail advertising, and bookbinding" as advertised in city directories. C. W. Hill married Lulu Cornelia and they had two children, Leslie C. B. and Edna. Leslie Hill became an ordained minister of Christianity in Redondo Beach, California, and Edna Hill became involved in the family business, eventually marrying E. Durand Hilscher, an employee of her father's printing company.

Regarded as members of Spokane upper society, Charles and Lulu Hill were included in the 1909 edition of the *Spokane Blue Book*, a published social directory for Spokane.<sup>xii</sup> During his 29-year property ownership and residency of the nominated house, Charles W. Hill demonstrated the most productive period of his professional life. During his tenure, Hill's company became noted as one of the largest and best-equipped lithographic printing shops in the Pacific Northwest.<sup>xiii</sup> Over the course of 30 years, Hill expanded the operations several times, including a move to a \$5,000 printing plant on South Howard Street, and then a new

<sup>x</sup> Spokane County warranty deed #302700A, dated 8 August 1937. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

<sup>xi</sup> "Charles W. Hill, Death's Victim." *Spokesman-Review*, 13 Jan 1937, p. 7.

<sup>xii</sup> Polk, R. L. *The Spokane Blue Book, 1909*. Spokane: R. L. Polk & Company, publishers, 1909, p. 168.

<sup>xiii</sup> "Hill Printing Plant Among Best Equipped." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 June 1940.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

\$50,000 headquarters building on West Riverside Avenue in downtown Spokane in 1925.<sup>xiv</sup> The company, one of Spokane's most prominent print shops, was featured in numerous Spokane newspaper articles, including one in which Charles W. Hill was applauded for his long-time printing career:

"Yesterday at the regular weekly luncheon of the Spokane printers, Mr. Hill was presented with a bound manuscript, bearing the congratulations and signatures of practically every printer and printers' supply house in the city."<sup>xvi</sup>

In 1932, the company was awarded a bronze medal by the Reading Paper Mills for the best use made of its paper products by printers in all sections of the United States. The piece which won the award was a menu for the Davenport Hotel. Due to health concerns, the Hill's moved south in the late 1920s. Charles W. Hill died in January of 1937 in Fullerton, California where he had been living with his son, Rev. Leslie C.B. Hill. His wife, Lulu Hill, passed away in Spokane on November 15, 1949.

### ***E. Durand Hilscher***

After his father-in-law and employer, Charles W. Hill died, Earl Durand Hilscher was named president of the C. W. Hill Printing Company. Hilscher was born in St. Louis on March 10, 1897, but was raised in Spokane. He began working for the C. W. Hill Printing Company in 1916 after graduating from Lewis & Clark High School and spending two years in college. Shortly after marrying Hill's daughter, Edna in 1917, he moved into the nominated house, residing there from 1920 to 1948. Before becoming president of the company, Hilscher first worked as a paper cutter in the bindery department, rose to the level of bookkeeper and then manager. During his tenure he helped grow the business from a shop of three to over thirty employees. As president of the company, the print shop was well known for their state-of-the-art printing technology and was noted in Spokane newspapers as "one of the best-equipped lithographing and printing departments in the Pacific Northwest."<sup>xvii</sup> In fact, it was the first printing company in region to install a "two-color offset press." Such technology helped the business flourish and over the course of 80+ years the company published hundreds of thousands of books, pamphlets, catalogues, and other publications.

During his printing career, Hilscher served as president of the Chamber of Commerce Retail Trade Bureau, and was active with the National Association of Photo-Lithographers and the Printing Industry of America. On the social side he was a potentate of the El Katif Shire, and was a member of the Kiwanis, the Spokane Club, the Early Birds, and Manito Golf & Country Club. Together, the Hilscher's had two children, Doris Jean and Libby.

After officially purchasing the company in 1942, Hilscher continued to grow and expand the business until 1969, when he retired. Run by Elton Deno, the company was sold to Lawton Printing Incorporated of Spokane in 1977. At that time, Lawton Printing Inc. was the largest commercial printing firm in the region with C. W. Hill Printing Company regarded as "No. 2 in the field in Spokane."<sup>xviii</sup> Although the company was owned by Lawton Printing, they continued to operate under the original Hill name for the next two decades until 1984, a tribute to its longstanding and widespread reputation as a well-respected leader in the printing business.

Earl Durand Hilscher died in October 24, 1972 in Spokane. His wife, Edna, passed away on October 13, 1976.

### **ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Hill-Hilscher House is architecturally significant as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type and period of construction. Executed in the Colonial Revival style as applied to an American Foursquare house form, the Hill-Hilscher House demonstrates a transitional period in architectural style, showing a shift/ or melding of styles; from the Arts & Crafts period to the Colonial Revival vein.<sup>xix</sup>

<sup>xiv</sup> "Spends 50 Years in Printing Trade." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 8 Dec 1925.

<sup>xvi</sup> "Spends 50 Years in Printing Trade." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 8 Dec 1925.

<sup>xvii</sup> "Hill Printing Plant Among Best Equipped." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 June 1940.

<sup>xviii</sup> "C. W. Hill Purchased by Lawton." *Spokesman-Review*, 1 Nov 1977.

<sup>xix</sup> National Park Service Bulletin 15, pp. 17-19.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

### **American Foursquare House Form**

The term American Foursquare refers to a specific house form. *The Dictionary of Architecture & Construction* defines the American Foursquare home in two ways: 1) a one-or two-story house having a square floor plan consisting of four rooms (one in each corner), a hipped roof, and an off-center entry door; and most popular circa 1905 to 1915, and 2) a Prairie Box, primarily in the years between about 1900 to 1920, having a low-pitched hipped roof and a symmetrical façade.<sup>xx</sup> Architectural historians, Robert Schweitzer and Michael W. R. Davis (*America's Favorite Homes*), explain that American Foursquare homes were called by a variety of names, including Edwardian, American Foursquare, Square, American Basic, Prairie, Prairie Box, and Box House. The house form was popular in America from about 1900 to 1920, and was considered by many to "be one of the best arranged and most practical plans...a square type of construction which permits the utilizing of every available inch of space."<sup>xxi</sup> They further state that "the Box House offered a plan for families desiring a four-bedroom home rather than the smaller two- or three-bedroom bungalow...and took the place of the four-bedroom Georgian-style colonial" house.<sup>xxii</sup> Defining features of the American Foursquare house form include a rectangular or square box-like form with one, two, or three stories; a hipped roof; dormers (hip, shed, or gable); widely overhanging eaves; eaves, cornices, and façade detailing emphasizing horizontal lines; covered front porches at the first floor; conspicuous front entrances (center or off-center); typical 1/1 double-hung wood-sash windows; and sometimes massive square porch supports.<sup>xxiii</sup>

Built in 1909 during the defined time period for the foursquare house type (1900-1920), the Hill-Hilscher House is a well-preserved, excellent example of the American Foursquare tradition and reflects many of the above-mentioned identifying features. Specifically expressed at the Hill-Hilscher House, these features include a nearly square box-like form with two-and-one-half stories; a hipped roof; widely overhanging eaves; hipped roof dormers; a covered front porch at the first floor; thick square porch supports; horizontal emphasis (achieved in wide eaves, prominent cornice and frieze courses, water table course, narrow-width horizontal clapboard siding); a conspicuous front entrance with a wide door and flanking sidelights; and four large rooms on the first floor (one room in each of the four corners of the house).

### **Colonial Revival Style**

Popular in America from about 1880 to 1955, the Colonial Revival style is a revival or rebirth of stylistic prototypes found in English and Dutch houses built along the Atlantic Seaboard in the original Thirteen Colonies in early America during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. "Details from two or more of these precedents are freely combined in many examples so that pure copies of colonial houses are far less common than are eclectic mixtures."<sup>xxiv</sup> Even with eclectic expressions, the Colonial Revival style was the "dominant style for domestic building throughout the country" during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>xxv</sup> Identifying features of the Colonial Revival style include an accentuated front entrance and/or front door (pediments, pilasters, fanlights, sidelights), columns and plain or turned-post balustrades, symmetrical fenestration patterns, double-hung sash windows; windows arranged in adjacent pairs, Palladian windows; prominent cornice and frieze courses, and brick or horizontal clapboard siding.

Colonial Revival style details on the Hill-Hilscher House include a formal appearance with symmetrical fenestration patterns; accentuated center front entrance with sidelights, wide frieze, prominent front-facing "Palladian-like" window dormer, Classic molding, horizontal clapboard siding, finely finished cut basalt ashlar foundation with beaded joints, and crisp classic white-colored trim. Interior Colonial Revival style details include the home's formal center front entrance vestibule and reception hall, grand five-foot-wide staircase in the reception hall, five-paneled wood doors (including sliding pocket doors), brass door and window hardware, multi-paned French doors, prominent frieze course in formal sitting room, boxed ceiling beams, and elaborate

<sup>xx</sup> Harris, Cyril M. *The Dictionary of Architecture & Construction, Third Edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishers, 2000, p. 29.

<sup>xxi</sup> Schweitzer, Robert and Michael W. R. Davis. *America's Favorite Homes*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1990, p. 161.

<sup>xxii</sup> *Ibid*, p. 161.

<sup>xxiii</sup> *Ibid*, pp. 161-168; and McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Knopf Publishers, 1989, p. 439.

<sup>xxiv</sup> McAlester, p. 324.

<sup>xxv</sup> *Ibid*, p. 324.

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

Name of Property

County and State

Classic molded pediments and hoods over doors and windows (dining room). To summarize, the Hill-Hilscher House is a finely crafted home which represents the Colonial Revival and American Foursquare traditions, retains a high degree of historic integrity, and is one of the largest and first homes built in the Cannon Hill Addition on Spokane's South Hill. Achieving importance from 1909 to 1948, it is architecturally significant as an excellent example of the American Foursquare type in the Colonial Revival vein.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

*Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.*

**Books, Periodicals, Public Records, Maps**

- Harris, Cyril M. The Dictionary of Architecture & Construction, Third Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill Publishers, 2000.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Knopf Publishers, 1989.
- Marriage Certificate "Earl D. Hilscher and Edna E. Hill" – License No. 22075, April 12, 1917
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- Spokane County public records. Spokane County Courthouse, Spokane, WA.

**Newspaper Articles**

- "C. W. Hill Purchased by Lawton." *Spokesman-Review*, 1 Nov 1977.
- "Charles W. Hill, Death's Victim." *Spokesman-Review*, 13 Jan 1937, p. 7.
- "Charles W. Hill Dies in South." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 12 Jan 1937.
- "Challenges Seen in Others' Needs." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 15 Sept 1964.
- "Company's Head Is One-Firm Man." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 5 Nov 1962.
- "Edna Hilscher Rites Scheduled." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 16 Oct 1976.
- "Enjoys Summing at Sun Valley." *Spokesman-Review*, 11 June 1940.
- "Executive Is Honored." *Spokesman-Review*, 16 June 1966.
- "Fire Fatal to Woman." *Spokesman-Review*, 14 Oct 1976.
- "Hill Company Here Since 1908." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 5 June 1941.
- "Hill Firm Wins Printing Award." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 19 July 1932.
- "Hill Printing Makes Way for Building." *Spokesman-Review*, 24 May 1964.
- "Hill Printing Plant Among Best Equipped." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 June 1940.
- "Hill's Golden Wedding Fete Details Told." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 6 Oct 1934.
- "New Offset Press Here." *Spokesman-Review*, 4 Jan 1961.
- "Pioneer Spokane Printing Firm Leader in Modern Equipment." *Spokesman-Review*, 31 July 1963.
- "Printing Firm Executive E. Durand Hilscher Dies." *Spokesman-Review*, 25 Oct 1972.
- "Printing Plant Adds Equipment." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 18 Oct 1935.
- "Spends 50 Years in Printing Trade." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 8 Dec 1925.
- "Two Will Speak." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 11 Oct 1950.
- "Spokane 60 Years Ago." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 28 Sept 1971.

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

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE  
Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre.  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References** X NAD 1927 or      NAD 1983

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>11</u>	<u>04-67-585</u>	<u>52-76-280</u>	3	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Or Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	3	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude
2	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	4	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
	Latitude	Longitude		Latitude	Longitude

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Spokane County verbal boundary description for the nominated urban property is the Cannon Hill Addition, Block 16, Lots 7 and 8. It is otherwise known as Spokane County Tax Assessor as tax parcel number 25251.1607.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated property includes the entire Spokane County tax parcel associated with the Hill-Hilscher House.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Linda Yeomans, Preservation Consultant (EDITED BY DAHP STAFF)  
organization Historic Preservation Planning & Design date August 26, 2013  
street & number 501 West 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue telephone 509-456-3828  
city or town Spokane state WA zip code 99203  
e-mail lindayeomans@comcast.net

HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

Name of Property

SPOKANE COUNTY, WA

County and State

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### Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

---

### Photographs:

---

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property:** HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE

**City or Vicinity:** Spokane

**County:** Spokane

**State:** WA

**Photographer:** Linda Yeomans, Preservation Consultant

**Date Photographed:** 2013

### Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 15: East façade of house in 2013.
- 2 of 15: North facade of house in 2013.
- 3 of 15: Southwest façade corner of house in 2013.
- 4 of 15: South façade of house in 2013.
- 5 of 15: West rear of house in 2013.
- 6 of 15: Garage and carport behind house in 2013, looking northeast.
- 7 of 15: Palladian center dormer on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor on east façade of house in 2013.
- 8 of 15: Formal grand staircase in 2013, looking west.
- 9 of 15: Formal grand staircase in 2013, looking east.
- 10 of 15: Balustrade details of grand staircase in 2013, looking north.
- 11 of 15: Living room in 2013, looking west.
- 12 of 15: Looking east in 2013 from living room into front parlor.
- 13 of 15: Dining room in 2013, looking northeast.
- 14 of 15: Kitchen in 2013, looking northwest.
- 15 of 15: Representative bedroom in 2013, looking southwest.

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### Property Owner: (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

---

name Kathleen L. Meyer

street & number 1636 S. Cedar Street

telephone 509-455-4482

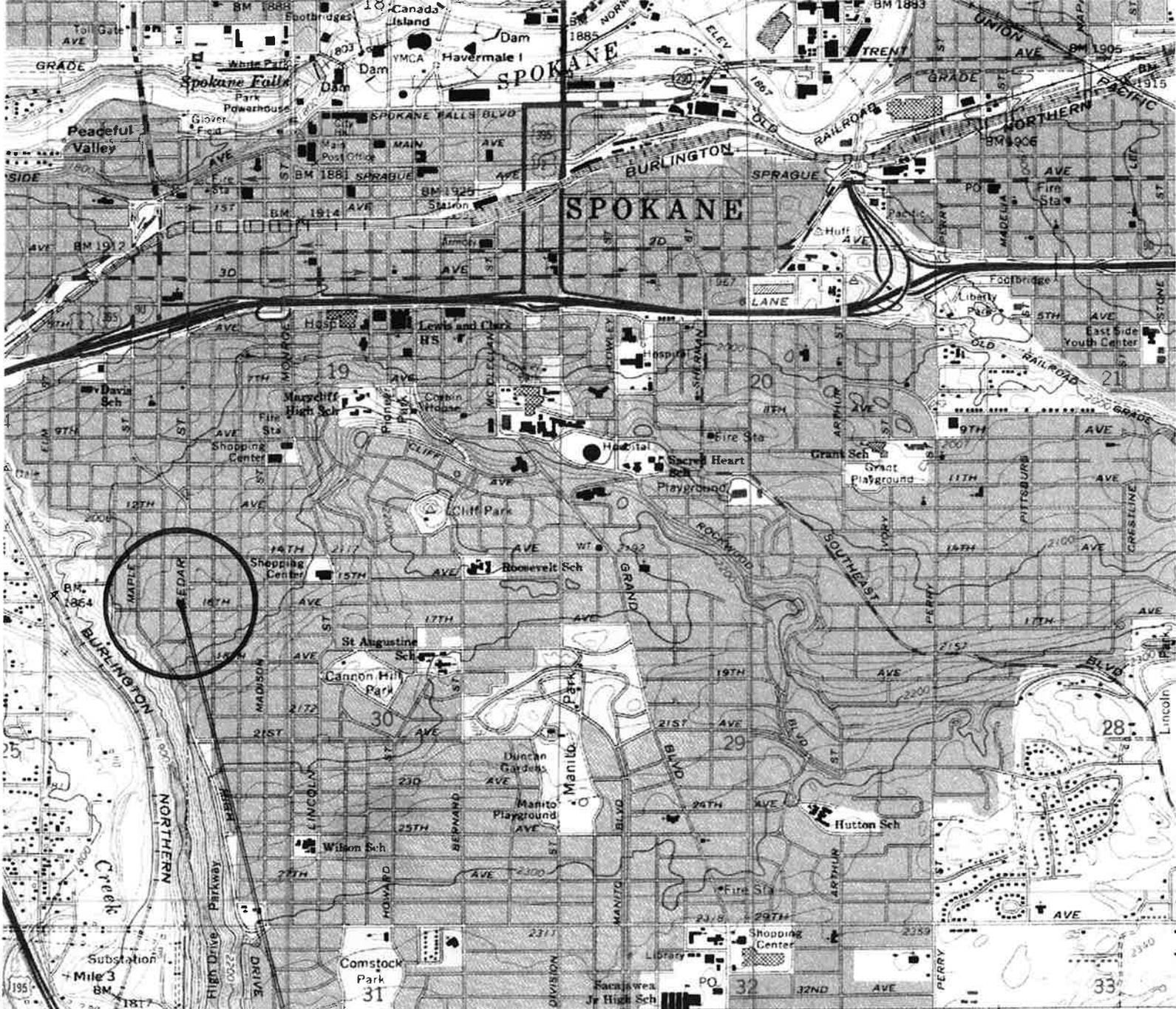
city or town Spokane

state WA

zip code 99203

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



14 M. (SPOKANE SW)  
54 391 2579 III SW



OUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
5 REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS  
ING RIVERS REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
ODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
EV. DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
PHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

25° R. 43 E. 470

● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 1986 471000m E. 117°

**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway, hard surface Light-duty road, hard or improved surface

Secondary highway, hard surface Unimproved road

Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route



Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1982 and other sources  
This information not field checked. Map edited 1986

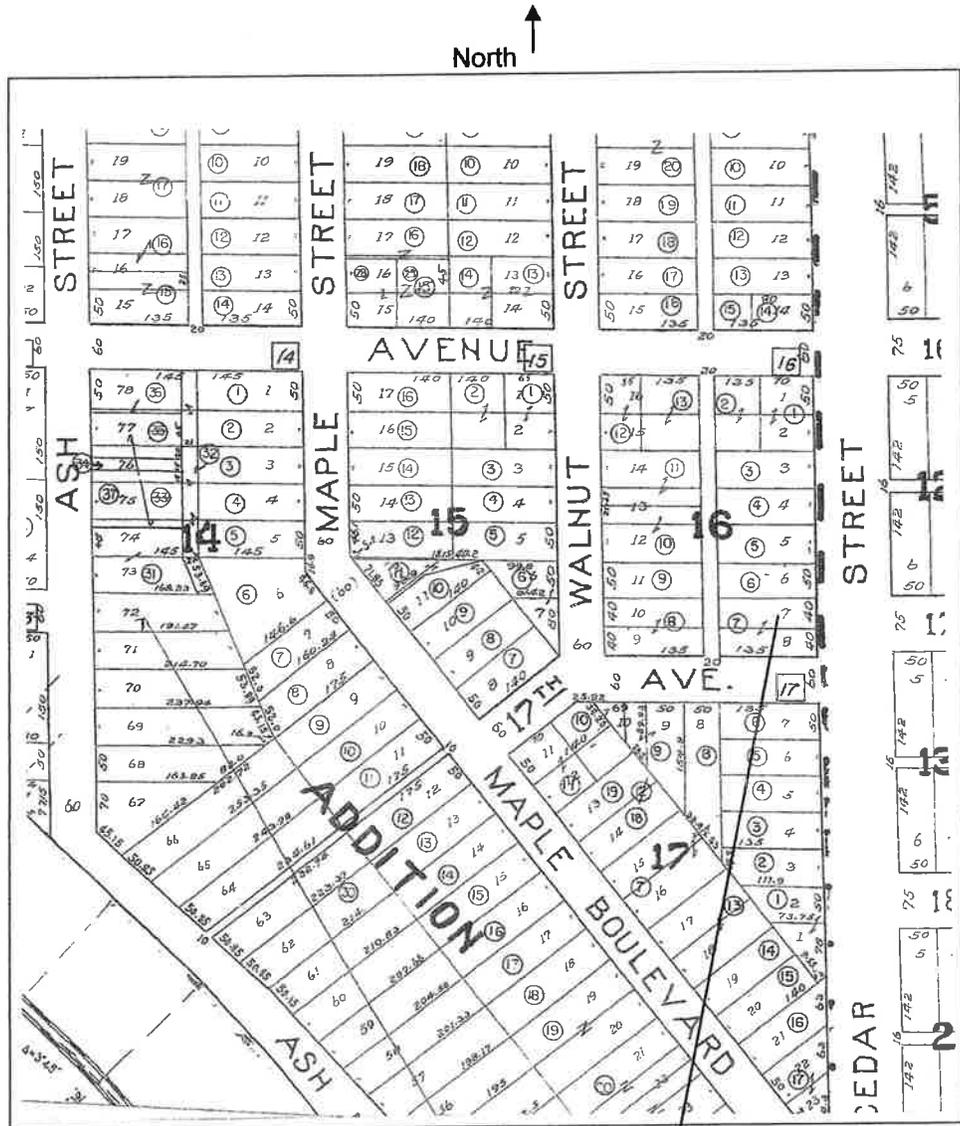
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

**SPOKANE NW, WASH**  
NW/4 SPOKANE 15' QUADRANGLE  
47117-F4-TF-024

1974  
PHOTOREVISED 1986  
DMA 2579 III NW—SERIES V891

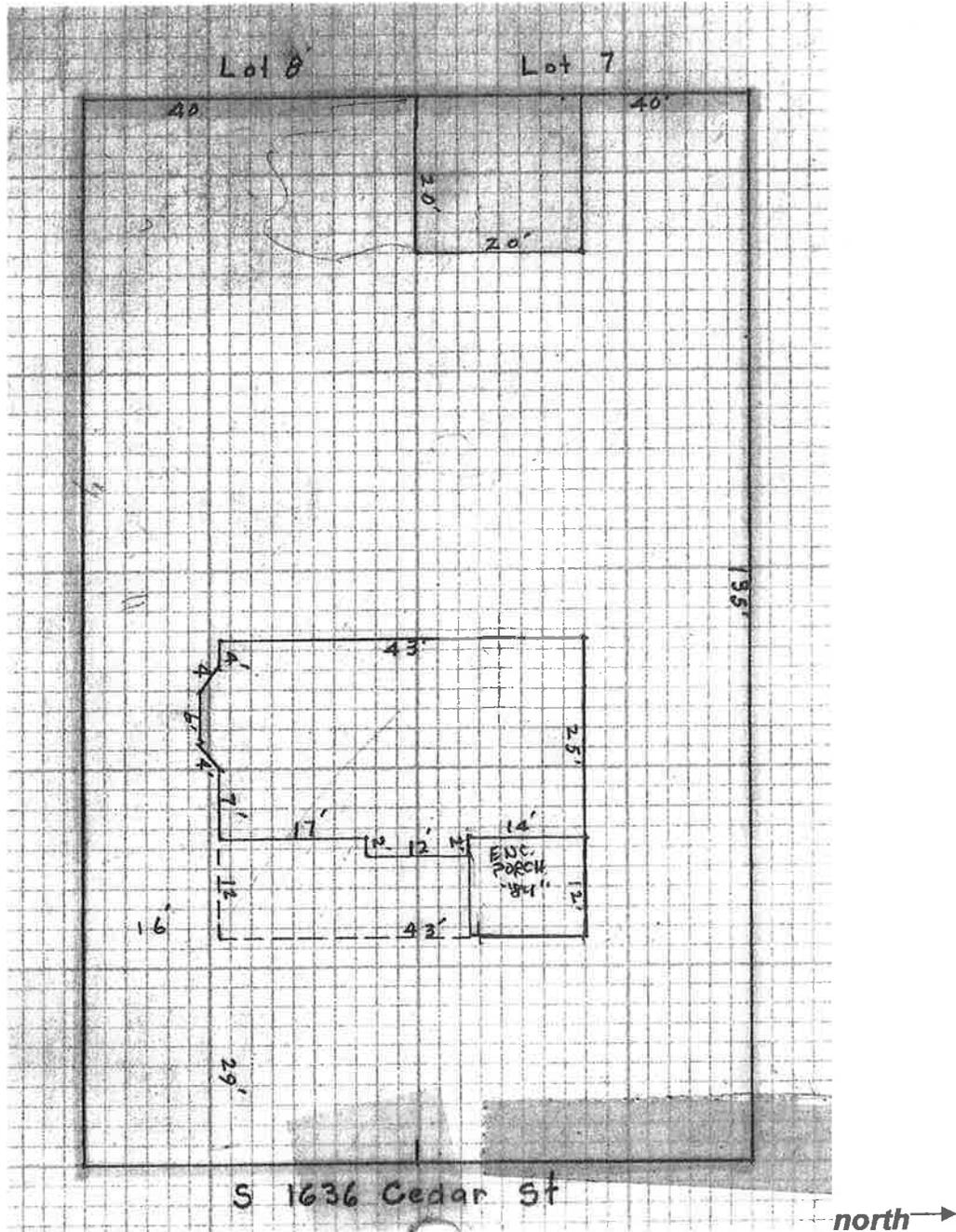
HILL-HILSHER HOUSE, SPOKANE COUNTY, W  
ZONE II EASTING 467585  
NORTHING 5276280

**HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE**  
**SPOKANE COUNTY, WA**



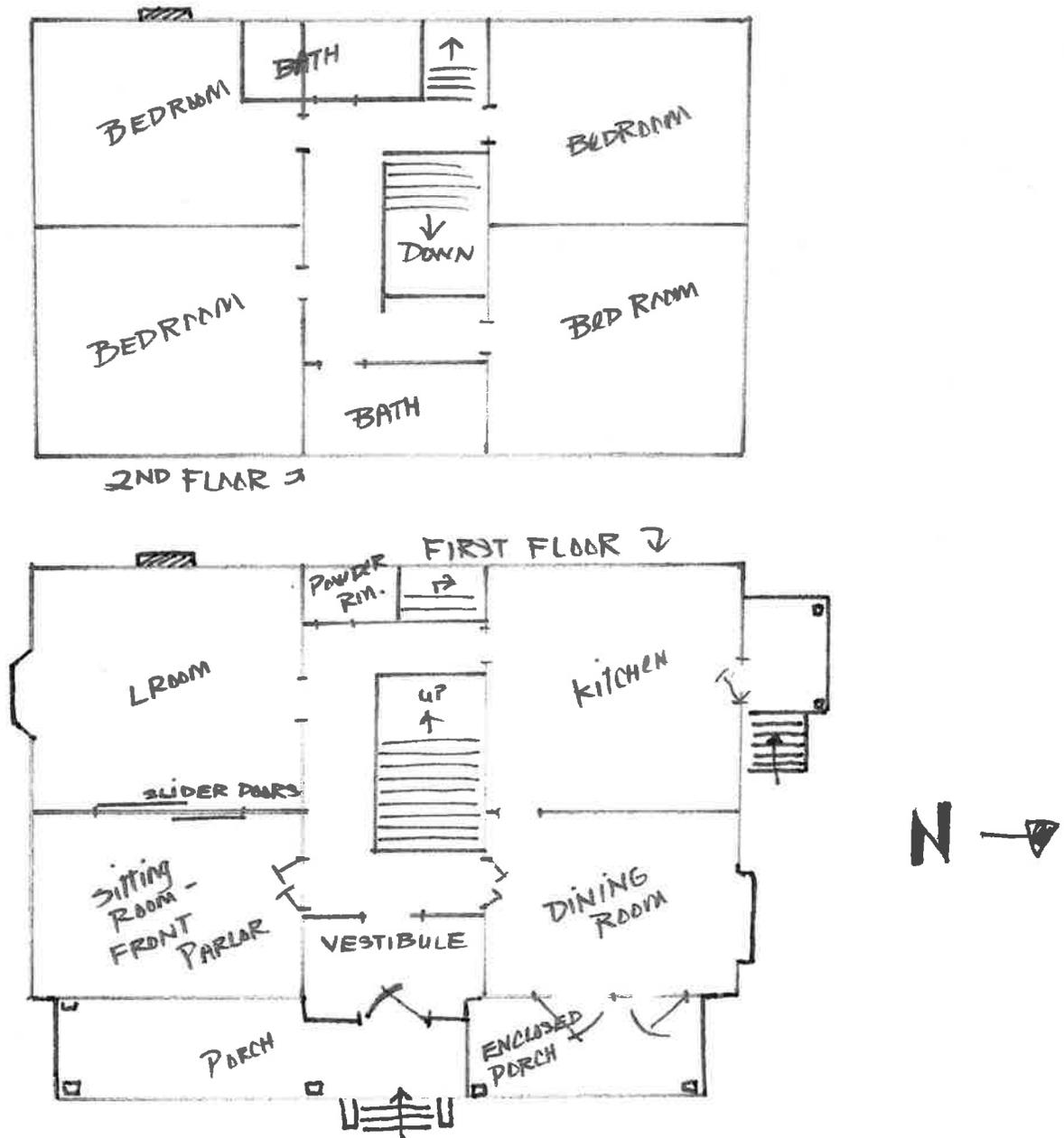
**Cannon Hill Addition, Block 16, Lots 7 and 8**  
**Spokane County Plat Map 2013**

**HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE**  
**SPOKANE COUNTY, WA**



**HILL-HILSCHER HOUSE**  
**SPOKANE COUNTY, WA**

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**Floor Plan for first and second floors**

**ANDERSON, LOUISE CHANDLER, HOUSE**  
**SPOKANE COUNTY, WA**

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**1959 Spokane County Tax Assessor Photo**  
**East Façade of House**

**Hill-Hilscher House**

1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**Polk, R. L. *The Spokane Blue Book: 1909.* Spokane: R. L. Polk & Company, publishers, 1909, p. 168.**

168

R. L. POLK & CO.'S

Heyburn, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood M., Walton nw cor. Lawrence.

—Miss Lillian C.,

—Miss Sarah G.

Hieber, Mr. and Mrs. John G. F., 2011 First ave.

Higby, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E., S1418 Maple.

Higgins, Mr. John W., E607 Sinto ave.

Higgins, Mr. Thomas B., Spokane Club.

Highhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Albert M., 2124 Fifth ave. Thursday.

Hightower, Sergt. Major and Mrs. Alfred J., Fort Wright.

Higley, Mrs. Maria E., 1024 Knox ave.

—Miss Ella E.

Higley, Mr. and Mrs. Miles M., 1028 Knox ave. Friday.

Hilborn, Mr. and Mrs. Burton E., S421 Chestnut; tel. Main 2856. Thursday.

Hildebrand, Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel K., E1708 Eighth ave.

Hildebrand, Mr. and Mrs. Louis F., S935 Bryant ave.

—Mr. Louis A.

Hill, Mrs. Anna R., 1221 Tenth ave.

Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W., S1623 Cedar.

Hill, Rev. and Mrs. Everett M., 1204 Sharp ave. Friday.

Hill, Mr. and Mrs. George C., 903 Twelfth ave. Wednesday.

Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob, S508 Monroe. Wednesday.

Hill, Mr. L. Forest, 217 Fifth ave.

Hilliard, Mr. Robert C., 1707 Ninth ave.

Hilscher, Dr. Frank W., 401 Fifth ave.

Hinckley, Mr. and Mrs. William I., E1318 Newark ave.

Hindle, Mr. and Mrs. James A., 712 Fifth ave.; tel. Main 5066. Wednesday.

Hindley, Rev. and Mrs. William J., E224 Indiana ave. Friday.

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SOCIAL REGISTER FOR SPOKANE

THE HILLS & HILSCHERS OMITTED THE DAY OF THE WEEK THEY WERE OPEN TO RECEIVE GUESTS

Hill-Hilscher House  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

"Spends 50 Years in Printing Trade." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 8 Dec 1925

## SPENDS 50 YEARS IN PRINTING TRADE

C. W. Hill Celebrating  
Anniversary Today—  
Honored at Luncheon.

Charles W. Hill, president of the C. W. Hill Printing company, is today celebrating the 50th anniversary of his entrance into the printing industry.

Yesterday at the regular weekly luncheon of the Spokane printers, Mr. Hill was presented with a bound manuscript, bearing the congratula-



C. W. Hill.

tions and signature of practically every printer and printers' supply house in the city. The program of the session yesterday was in honor of the anniversary.

### Got Job in St. Paul.

Mr. Hill entered the industry 50 years ago today when he was given a job setting type as an extra man on the St. Paul Newspaper Union, now the St. Paul Dispatch. He was less than 16 years of age at the time. His salary was \$3 a week. After he had been employed with the paper three years he was receiving \$8 a week as compensation for his service.

With interest Mr. Hill recalls going into the newspaper office on his first day. "We went to work at 6 o'clock in the morning and started setting type by the light of a kerosene lamp," he said.

"This was before the days of the perfection of the engraving plant and often it was my duty to illustrate a news story with printers' rule and type." Illustrating a train wreck in this manner was one of the incidents of which he spoke.

### Came to Spokane in 1908.

He was the first printer employed by the West Publishing company, now one of the largest law book publishing concerns in the country. Later he went to the Pioneer Press where he worked 27 years. He then went to southern California where he ran a newspaper for two years before coming to Spokane, in June, 1908.

For 17 years he engaged in job printing on South Howard street, starting with a \$5000 plant. In July he moved his establishment to the Publishers' building on Riverside, where his \$50,000 plant is now located.

1928

1925

Hill-Hilscher House  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Printing Plant Adds Equipment." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 18 Oct 1935.**

## PRINTING PLANT ADDS EQUIPMENT

Installation of a modern photolithograph department, employing four additional workers and costing between \$11,000 and \$12,000, was announced today by E. Durand Hilscher, manager of the C. W. Hill Printing company.

"We believe our plant is the most modern available anywhere," said Mr. Hilscher. "The selection of equipment was delayed until a thorough canvass had been made of all available processes. While several similar plants are in operation in Coast cities, particularly in California, ours is the first printing plant in Spokane to be so equipped."

"The process makes possible the reproduction at high speed and without excessive cost of any type of copy which may be photographed. Work may be produced in any desired numbers of colors."

The new equipment includes a huge camera, a dark room, machinery for creating extra-thin printing plates and an automatic offset press."

Hill-Hilscher House  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

"Charles W. Hill Dies in South." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 12 Jan 1937.

"Charles W. Hill Death's Victim." *Spokesman-Review*, 13 Jan 1937.

## CHARLES W. HILL DIES IN SOUTH

*Card  
LW  
SEP 16 3*

Charles W. Hill, founder and president of the C. W. Hill Printing company, died Monday night at Fullerton, Cal., where he and Mrs. Hill had been living for several years with a son, the Rev. Leslie C. B. Hill.

Mr. Hill was 76 at the time of his death and had seen long service in the printing industry, starting when less than 16 years old in St. Paul. He was born in New York state in 1860 and in 1875 he started setting type as an extra man on the St. Paul Morning Union, working by the light of kerosene lamps.

Later he worked on other St. Paul papers, became the first printer hired by the West Publishing company, now one of the largest law book publishers in the country, and after publishing a paper in southern California two years came to Spokane in 1908 to found the business he headed at the time of his death.

Although living in California with his son for several years, Mr. Hill always considered Spokane his home. He went south because of his health. About three weeks ago he had a heart attack, but about 10 days ago he had sufficiently recovered so that Mr. and Mrs. E. Durand Hilscher, son-in-law and daughter, who were called south, returned to Spokane.

He was a member of Masonic orders and the Shrine.

Survivors are the widow, Lulu C., the son, the daughter and two grandchildren, Libby and Doris Hilscher.

The body will be brought to Spokane. Funeral services will be held in Holy Trinity Episcopal church, the Rev. Father Donald Glazebrook officiating and Smith funeral home in charge. The services will be at 11 a. m. Saturday.

## CHARLES W. HILL DEATH'S VICTIM

*Card  
LW  
SEP 16 3*

Charles W. Hill, 76, Spokane printer and president of the C. W. Hill Printing company, died Monday in Fullerton, Cal., where he and his wife lived with their son, the Rev. Leslie C. B. Hill.

Mr. Hill, born in New York state in 1860, at 16 years began setting type on St. Paul newspapers. Later he joined a publishing firm as printer, and in 1906 moved to California and published a newspaper for two years. Then he moved to Spokane and founded the printing company. He suffered a heart attack about three weeks ago, but recovered so rapidly that his daughter who had been called to his bedside returned to Spokane.

He is survived by his widow, Lulu C.; his son; one daughter, Mrs. E. Durand Hilscher, Spokane, and two granddaughters, Libby and Doris Hilscher. He was a member of the Scottish Rite Masons and the Shrine.

*JAN 12 1937*

Funeral services will be at 11 Saturday morning from Holy Trinity church. Father Donald Glazebrook will officiate. Smith & Co. will be in charge.

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Hill Printing Plant Among Best Equipped." *Spokane Daily Chronicle,***  
6 June 1940

**"Hill Company Here Since 1908." *Spokane Daily Chronicle,***  
5 June 1941

**"Printer's Widow Taken By Death." *Spokane Daily Chronicle,***  
16 November 1949

### HILL PRINTING PLANT AMONG BEST EQUIPPED

One of the best-equipped lithographing and printing departments in the Pacific northwest is the C. W. Hill Printing Company plant at W920 Riverside. Recently products from the lithographing department, installed several years ago, made necessary its recent enlargement.

The printing company was established in 1908 by the late C. W. Hill on South Howard. E. Durand Hilscher is the firm's present president and manager.

The plant now occupies the entire second floor of the Riverside building. It has been in its present location since 1925. Twenty persons are employed turning out printing and lithographing for the city and doing considerable special work for customers throughout the Inland Empire.

### HILL COMPANY HERE SINCE 1908

Organized by the late C. W. Hill in 1908, the Hill Printing company has enjoyed steady growth until today it has one of the best-equipped printing shops in the northwest. The firm has been in its present location on the second floor of W920 Riverside, since 1925.

Six years ago the company added to its organization a photo-lithograph department, acquiring at the same time considerable new equipment. The business consists of producing a general line of commercial printing.

Eighteen persons are on the payroll of the firm, which has had E. Durand Hilscher as manager for a quarter century.

### PRINTER'S WIDOW TAKEN BY DEATH

(See other obituaries, page 28)

Mrs. Lulu Cornelia Hill, widow of a pioneer printer, C. W. Hill, died yesterday at her home, E1008 Forty-third.

Private funeral services will be held at 1 p. m. tomorrow at St. John's Episcopal cathedral. The Rev. William G. Greenfield and the Rev. Peter Letarte, canons of the cathedral, will officiate. The family requests no flowers.

Interment will be at Riverside Park. The body is at the Smith funeral home.

The late Charles W. Hill, founder and president of the C. W. Hill Printing company, died in 1937 in Fullerton, Calif., at the age of 76. He came to Spokane in 1908.

#### Daughter Survives

Mrs. Hill had long service in the printing industry, starting at the age of 16 on St. Paul newspapers. Spokane printers honored him on December 8, 1925, on his 50th anniversary in the printing business. The firm he founded has been at its present location, the second floor of W920 Riverside, since 1925.

Mrs. Hill is survived by a daughter, Mrs. E. Durand Hilscher, and one sister, Mrs. Paul I. Zimmerman, both of Spokane; two grandchildren, Mrs. Marc H. Sheeley, Spokane, and Mrs. D. E. Fjelsted, Brawley, Calif., and four great-grandchildren.

## Hill-Hilscher House

1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Personnel Changes for Two Firms." *Spokesman-Review*, 8 Nov 1959**



### Personnel Changes for Two Firms

Management changes were announced this week by two of Spokane's best-known printing firms. Earl H. Colson (left), former manager and officer of Shaw & Borden, printers and stationers, is now superintendent of C. W. Hill Printing company. He moved to Spokane from Chicago in 1934 to accept a position as Shaw & Borden superintendent. Replacing Colson will be Dick Galbraith (right), who has been associated with the Tri-City Printing company in Pasco for the last 11 years. As manager of the S & B printing division, Galbraith will be in charge of an expanded sales program which will include newly-added art services.

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**1955 Polk's City Directory advertisement for C. W. Hill Printing Company,  
page 93**

**FINE PRINTING**

**OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY**

**C. W. Hill Printing Co.**

*Quality Craftsmanship*

• • •

**MADISON 4338**

**W. 920 RIVERSIDE AVE.**

**SPOKANE, WASH.**

**SPOKANE CITY DIRECTORY**

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

1970 Polk's City Directory advertisement for C. W. Hill Printing Company,  
page 64

64

**PRINTERS**

W. 1100 SPRAGUE AVE.

**C. W. HILL  
PRINTERS**

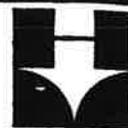
*OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY  
AND LETTERPRESS*

**Phone**



**MA 4-  
4338**

- |              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Bonds        | Factory Forms    |
| Booklets     | Folders          |
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| Checks       | Plastic Bindings |
| Envelopes    | Publications     |



*Creative Art  
Service*

*Two-Color  
Perfection Press*

*Automatic  
Stitcher Trimmer*

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"New Offset Press Here." *Spokesman-Review*, 4 Jan 1961**

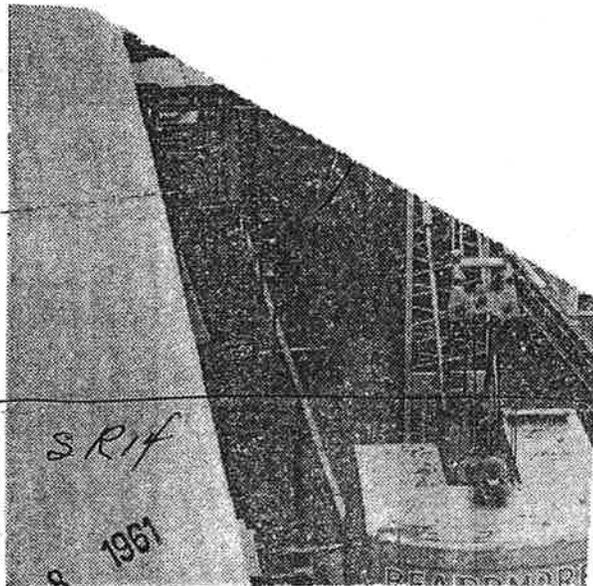
**"Boost for Printing Company." *Spokesman-Review*, 8 Jan 1961**

## New Offset Press Here <sup>SRH</sup>

A two-color offset press, described as the first to be installed in Spokane, will be hoisted through a window of the C. W. Hill Printing company, W920 Riverside, in three pieces this morning. **JAN 4 1961**

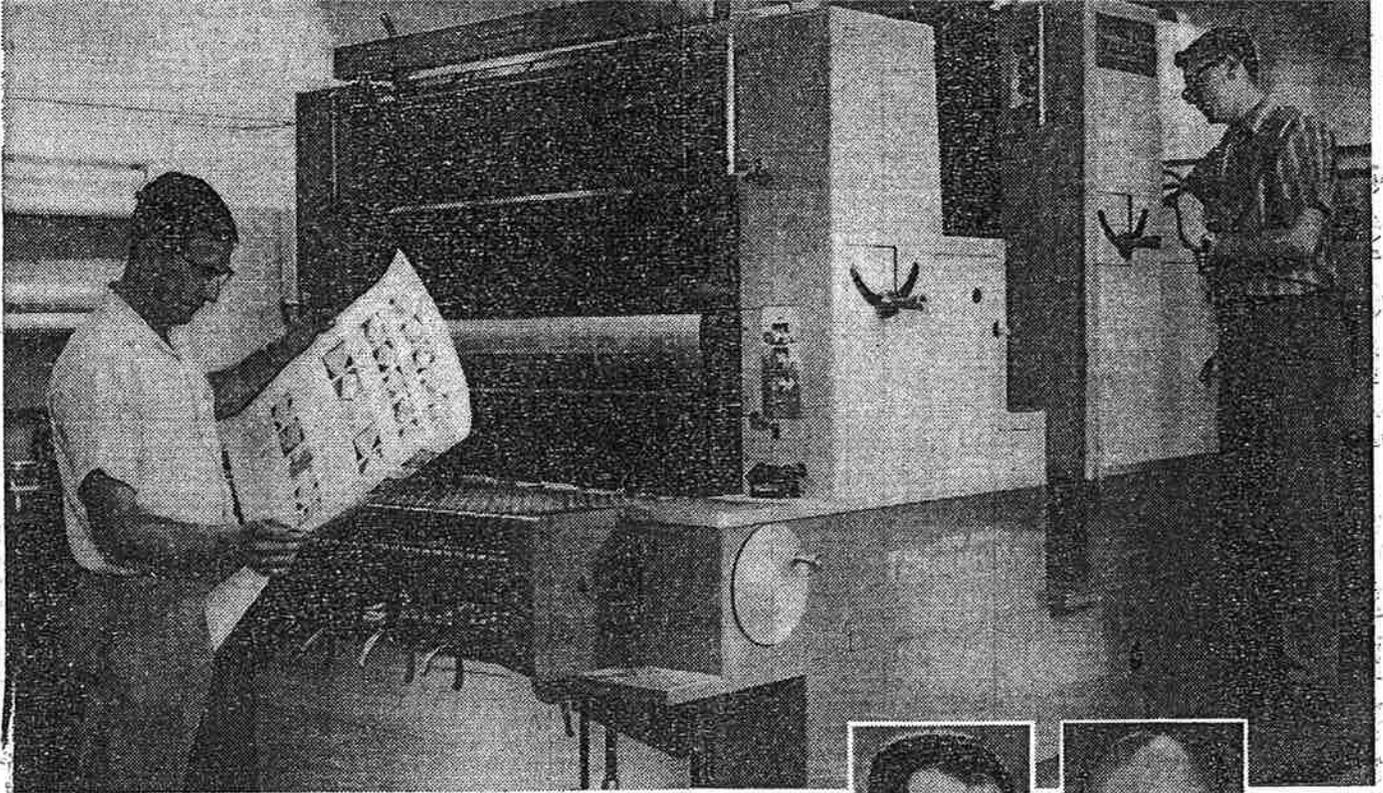
Disassembly of an old press and installation of the new machine will be completed today, said Elton O. Deno, secretary-treasurer of Hill Printing.

Weighing more than 10 tons, the new press fills a flatbed truck. It was shipped here from Pittsburgh, Pa.



## **JAN 8 1961** Boost for Printing Company

Parts of a new 10-ton press for C. W. Hill company at W920 Riverside are shown being "hoisted" through an upper story window from the alley west side of the United States postoffice. The first offset press was shipped here from Pittsburgh, Pa.



## PIONEER SPOKANE PRINTING FIRM LEADER IN MODERN EQUIPMENT !

Printers hustle to make ready. Strong <sup>SR</sup> arms slap paper into position. Sure hands lock type in place and the presses roll . . . imprinting an industry's message, artist's design or salesman's calling card. Into all these go the craftsmanship and experience of a firm that is a recognized leader in its field, the C. W. Hill Printing Company at West 920 Riverside. JUL 31 1963



**Bud Deno**  
Secretary-Treasurer



**E. Durand Hilscher**  
President

The C. W. Hill Printing Company is a dream come true for its founder, C. W. Hill, who first opened his printing shop in 1908. By 1916, his crew numbered four men and one part-time helper. In that year, E. Durand Hilscher joined the company. Today, the four-man crew has grown to thirty men and women; Hilscher is President and Bud Deno, associated with the firm for 31 years, is Secretary-Treasurer. Other changes have taken place, too . . . important changes that have built Hill's reputation in the industry. Now the firm owns ten presses that handle letterpress or offset printing. With the acquisition of a \$65,000 two-color Perfector press, the first of its kind in Spokane, Hill's has made another big stride forward in its drive to better serve the area's printing needs. The C. W. Hill Printing Company handles orders from as far away as Chicago and contributes a payroll in excess of \$200,000 annually to the economy of Spokane.

*Associated with the First National Bank since 1931.*

**First National Bank's staff and directors  
work hand in hand with business — large and small.**

First National offers individuals and the business community more than 17 complete banking services, including; *Mortgage Loans, Personal Loans, Safety Deposit, Escrow Collection Service, Bank-by-Mail, Home Improvement Loans, Commercial Loans, Drive-In Window, Night Depository, Investment Savings Accounts, Travelers Checks, Installment Loans, Auto Loans, Checking Accounts, Savings Accounts, Christmas Club and Drive-In Branch.*

### 3 Convenient Locations:

Main Office: *Riverside at Stevens* Branch Office: *Lincoln at Riverside*  
Drive-In Office: *Second at Stevens*



SR p. 6  
21 11/11/62

## Hill-Hilscher House

1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Hill Printing Makes Way for Building." *Spokesman-Review*, 24 May 1964**

### *Hill Printing Makes Way for Building*

MAY 24 1964

Hill Printing Co., one of the largest commercial printing firms in this area, announced Saturday it will move in July from W920 Riverside to W1102 Sprague. The latter site was formerly occupied by the Bill Brown Plymouth Co.

E. D. Hilscher is president and Elton (Bud) Deno is treasurer of the company founded here in 1908. It now has 30 employees. The late C. W. Hill started the firm on South Howard. It moved to its present site in 1925.

The former auto agency building is being remodeled for the printing company. Its present Riverside site is part of the property to be used for the new Federal Building to be built in Spokane next year.

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Challenges Seen in Others' Needs." Spokane Daily Chronicle,  
15 Sept 1964**

**Challenges Seen  
in Others' Needs**  
SEP 15 1964

Elton (Bud) Deno, secretary-treasurer and sales manager of C. W. Hill Printing Co., joined the firm as a bookkeeper in 1931 after attending Kinman Business University.

Five years later he went into sales and became sales manager in 1946. He has been secretary-treasurer since 1954.

There's a lot more to the printing business than just putting ink on paper, he said.

"It is interesting because we have to help people solve problems," he said. "Printing is so closely allied with the customer's business that we have to learn something about many businesses. This makes every day a new challenge."

Deno has seen many changes in the printing business.

"When I started in the business printing primarily was done from type with conventional letter-press equipment," he said. "In 1935 we installed an offset lithography department and this more versatile process today makes up about 75 per cent of our volume."

"About three years ago we installed the first two-color offset perfecter press in the city and color printing is becoming increasingly popular."

This color press, he explained, prints two colors on one side of a sheet or one color on each side.

#### Location Changed

Deno is very proud of Hill Printing's new plant at W1100 Sprague. The firm moved there recently after 40 years at W920 Riverside.

The new quarters provides about 40 per cent more usable space, or some 14,000 square feet, he said. The work floor has been redesigned for greater efficiency and off-street parking.



Elton (Bud) Deno

is provided for customers. The firm has 30 employees.

A native of Spokane, Deno is a Mason, a member of El Katif Shrine Arab Patrol, the downtown Kiwanis Club, Spokane Advertising & Sales Association and the Spokane Executives' Association.

His hobbies are such outdoor activities as fly fishing, huckleberry picking and hiking in the Priest Lake area. He has been building a summer home at the lake for a number of years.

He resides at E1927 Seventeenth with his wife, Alfreda, and two sons — Richard, a junior at Lewis and Clark High School, and James, a senior at the University of Washington Law School.

C. 1935

1961

## Hill-Hilscher House

1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

"Executive Is Honored. *Spokesman-Review*, 16 June 1966

"Printing Firm Executive E. Durand Hilscher Dies."  
*Spokesman-Review*, 25 Oct 1972

"E. Durand Hilscher." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 25 Oct 1972

Thursday, June 16, 1966. 5

### Spokesman-Review Executive Is Honored

E. Durand Hilscher, president of C. W. Hill Printing Co., W1100 Sprague, was honored by business associates Wednesday in observance of his 50th-anniversary in the printing business.

After graduating from Lewis and Clark High School he attended college for two years, then joined the printing company in 1916.

Hilscher is a past president of the Chamber of Commerce Retail Trade Bureau and past potentate of El Katif Shrine.

The Spokesman-Review, Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1972. 7

## Printing Firm Executive E. Durand Hilscher Dies

E. Durand Hilscher, 75, W227 Fortieth, president of Hill Printing Co. for 50 years until his retirement in 1969, died Tuesday in a local hospital.

Mr. Hilscher was a native of St. Louis and came to Spokane in 1899. He was a member of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Manito Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite Bodies and was a past potentate of El Katif Shrine.

He also was a member of the Royal Order of Jesters, past president of the Retail Trade Bureau, and belonged to the Kiwanis Club, the Spokane Club and Manito Golf and Country Club.

He is survived by his wife, Edna, at the home; two daughters, Mrs. Marc H. (Libby) Shelley Jr., Spokane, and Mrs. D. E. (Doris) Fieldsted, Tacoma; and five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two brothers.

The body is at Riplinger Funeral Home.

The family suggests memorial gifts may be made to the American Cancer Society.

### E. Durand Hilscher

Private memorial services will be at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist with the Very Rev. Richard Coombs officiating for E. Durand Hilscher, 75, Spokane printing firm executive, who died yesterday in a hospital here.

Mr. Hilscher was a native of St. Louis who came to Spokane in 1899. He was president of Hill Printing Co. for 50 years, retiring in 1969.

He was a member of Manito Masonic Lodge, 246, Scottish

Rite Bodies, Royal Order of Jesters, Kiwanis, Spokane Club and Manito Golf and Country Club. He was a past potentate of El Katif Shrine and past president of the Retail Trade Bureau.

Survivors include his wife, Edna, at the home, W227 Fortieth; two daughters, Mrs. Marc H. Shelley Jr., Spokane, and Mrs. D. E. Fieldsted, Tacoma; five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two brothers.

Riplinger's was in charge of cremation.

The family suggests that memorial gifts be sent to the American Cancer Society.

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Edna Hilscher Rites Scheduled." Spokane Daily Chronicle, 16 Oct 1976**

## Edna Hilscher Rites Scheduled

*CHW 10-16-76*  
Private memorial services are planned for Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. John for Mrs. Edna E. Hilscher who had lived at W227 40th.

Mrs. Hilscher lost her life in a fire at her home Thursday afternoon. She was 80.

The Very Rev. Richard Coombs, dean of St. John's, will officiate at the rites.

Fire officials said the apparent cause of the blaze which claimed her life was a dropped cigarette.

Mrs. Hilscher, who had been an invalid for a number of years, was the widow of E. Durand Hilscher, who for over 50 years was owner and president of C.W. Hill Printing Co. Mrs. Hilscher was daughter of the founder of the firm, C.W. Hill. She had been a life-long resident of Spokane.

She had been a past queen of the Daughters of the Nile and a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

Mrs. Hilscher is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Marc H. (Libby) Shelley Jr., Spokane, and Mrs. D.E. (Doris) Fjeldsted, Fife, Wash.; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Riplinger's is in charge of the services.

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"C.W. Hill Purchased by Lawton." *Spokesman-Review*, 1 Nov 1977**

**C. W. Hill**  
**purchased**  
NOV 1 1977 21:2  
**by Lawton**

Lawton Printing Inc., Spokane's largest commercial printing firm, announced Monday it has purchased C. W. Hill Inc. Printers, which is No. 2 in the field in Spokane.

Hill Printers, founded in 1908, will continue under the same name and Elton O. "Bud" Deno, former president, will remain as executive vice president, said Frank A. Lawton, president of Lawton Printing.

He said no changes are planned in the Hill plant at W1100 Sprague and the present staff of 28 printers and employees will remain the same.

Lawton, founded 36 years ago, employs 65 people in plants at Lincoln and Mallon and N608 Monroe. One of its largest affiliates is the File-Ez Folder Co.

**Hill-Hilscher House**  
1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

**"Alfreda E. Deno." Spokesman-Review, 27 June 1983**

**"Alfreda E. Deno." Spokesman-Review, 28 June 1983**

### **Alfreda E. Deno**

Memorial service for ~~Deno~~ Alfreda E. Deno, 71, a Spokane resident about 50 years, will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at Ball & Dodd-Thornhill & Langbehn Funeral Home. Cremation will precede the service.

Mrs. Deno, a native of Elgin, Ore., died Monday at her Priest Lake, Idaho, summer home.

She married Elton "Bud" Deno in Spokane in 1935. They owned and operated C.W./Hill Printers about 15 years until selling it in 1977.

Mrs. Deno also had been a salesclerk at The Crescent for several years.

Survivors include her husband, at the home; two sons, James E. Deno of Snohomish, Wash., and Richard Lee Deno of San Diego; one brother, Manuel Huffman of Spokane; two sisters, Ernestine Caballero of Spangle, Wash., and Corinne Traylor of Spokane; and two grandchildren.

### **Alfreda E. Deno**

Memorial service for Alfreda E. Deno, 71, a Spokane resident about 50 years, will be held at 11 a.m. today at Ball & Dodd-Thornhill & Langbehn Funeral Home. Cremation will precede the service.

Mrs. Deno, a native of Elgin, Ore., died Monday at her Priest Lake, Idaho, summer home.

She married Elton "Bud" Deno in Spokane in 1935. They owned and operated C.W./Hill Printers about 15 years until selling it in 1977.

Survivors include her husband, at the home; two sons, James E. Deno of Snohomish, Wash., and Richard Lee Deno of San Diego; one brother, Manuel Huffman of Spokane; two sisters, Ernestine Caballero of Spangle, Wash., and Corinne Traylor of Spokane; and two grandchildren.

## Hill-Hilscher House

1636 S. Cedar Street  
Spokane, WA 99203

"Company's Head Is One-Firm Man." *Spokane Daily Chronicle*, 5 Nov 1962

# Company's Head Is One-Firm Man

NOV 5 1962

Except for some harvest work in his high school days, E. Durand Hilscher has worked for only one firm.

He joined C. W. Hill Printing Co., W920 Riverside, 46 years ago

as a paper cutter in the bindery. Today he heads the firm.

Born at St. Louis, Hilscher came to Spokane with his parents when he was 2 years old.

He attended college for two years after graduating from Lewis and Clark High School, then, in 1916, took the job with C. W. Hill.

When Hill, who had founded the printing firm in 1908, became manager. He bought the firm in 1942.

### Shop Growth Told

Hill's, which started as a three-man shop 54 years ago, now is one of Spokane's largest print shops, with 30 employes in a 10,000-square-foot plant.

Hill's does commercial printing and offset lithography work for



other companies all over the Inland Empire. It has been a leader in color printing in recent years, Hilscher says, and it was the first firm in the Inland Empire to install a two-color offset press.

The company's products range from yearbooks, catalogues, and brochures to forms on which much of the area's business activity is recorded.

Hilscher and his wife, Edna, live at W227 Fortieth. They have two daughters, Libby, now Mrs. Marc Shelley of Spokane, and Doris, now Mrs. D. E. Fjeldsted of Brawley, Calif. They have five grandchildren.

### Woodworking Hobby

The Hilschers have a summer home on Coeur d'Alene Lake, and Hilscher also is a woodworking enthusiast.

He is a past president of the Retail Trade Bureau, and a past potentate of El Katif Shrine. He also is a member of Kiwanis, the Spokane Club, the Early Birds, Manito Golf and Country Club, the Printing Industry of America, and the National Association of Photo-Lithographers.

