

Boone/Truly Ranch, Main House
11119 NE 185th Street
Bothell
King County
Washington

HABS No. WA-218-A

HABS

WASH

17-BOTH,

1A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Columbia Cascade Support Office
National Park Service
909 First Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104-1060

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING^S SURVEY

THE BOONE/TRUELY RANCH
MAIN HOUSE

HABS No. WA-218-A

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Location: 11119 NE 185th Street
Bothell, King County, Washington 98011

U.S.G.S. Bothell, Wash. 15' Quadrangle,
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 10.560698.5289780

Present Owner: Multiple Owners - The University of Washington and Richard Truly

Present Occupant: Richard Truly

Present Use: Single Family Residence

Significance:

The ^{Boone-Truly} ~~Truly/Boone~~ Ranch, located near the city of Bothell, Washington, approximately 31 miles north of Seattle, is associated with early settlement in the Sammamish Slough area, and with the general pattern of economic development in King County, Washington. The ranch property has been owned since 1916 by the Benjamin Boone and Richard Truly families. The buildings, which were constructed in 1924, embody the physical features that characterize a family-operated cattle ranch.

In terms of local history, the Boone/Truly Ranch is associated with its first owner, homesteader George Wilson, and with Benjamin Boone, a Seattle businessman who purchased the property from Wilson. Benjamin Boone's life and career -- as a cowboy, gold prospector, rodeo enthusiast and successful businessman -- are exemplified by his development of the ranch. Several generations of the Boone/Truly family have resided on the property since the early 1920s, operating an active cow-calf operation until the mid-1980s. At the ranch they maintained the ideals of the pioneer America -- including a close relationship between inhabitants and the land, personal resourcefulness, and an open social structure. Thus the ranch represents the history of a specific American family, and the values of the pioneer West.

- Significant Features:**
- Wood frame and post and beam construction with wood pier and concrete footings
 - Craftsman-styled Main House with gable roofs, painted, horizontal wood siding with corner boards, wood/composite shingle roofing, multi-paned double-hung sash, and fixed wood windows with plain trim and lugsills, and a prominent wrap porch with battered brick and wood piers
 - Interior with painted plaster over lath walls and ceilings, stained and painted fir flooring, base and trim, multi-panel, fir doors
 - Masonry fireplace, and built in glazed bookcase in spacious living/dining room
 - Kitchen with lower cabinet bins, upper glazed cabinets, and built-in refrigerated cooler, and painted wood board and batten ceiling

Date of Construction: 1924

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Architectural Description:

The Main House, which served as the primary residence of the Benjamin Boone and Richard Truly families, is a square, one and one-half story, side-gabled Craftsman style bungalow. The house is situated on a low ridge on the western edge of the property, on a prominent position easily viewed from the east, with views to the west into a meadow surrounded by fir trees. Viewed from the west, the symmetry of the house is obvious. The steeply pitched gable roof, with an unbroken ridge line, a low, wide dormer and a centrally located entrance gable accentuate the dominance of the main, square volume of the house. Low shed roofs flanking the east and west sides, rhythmically spaced piers, and a centrally located door further enhance the symmetry. These characteristics deem the west side as the "front" of the house, where guests would approach, as it elevates the visitor from the driveway, directly into the family room.

Other buildings on the property are situated generally north and south of the main house. The Hay Barn is down a slope from the main house and slightly east of the North-South axis.

Facades of the Main House are dominated by battered brick, concrete, and wooden piers that support the wrap porch and entry portico roofs. The piers are segmented into three parts, reducing in scale from grade to the eaves. Extending from ground level to three feet above the porch floor, brick bases are capped with a three inch thick concrete slab. A wood-clad, 2'x2' wood post is centered on the concrete seat. Three vertical ornamental pieces at the top of the post suggest a strap motif, and trim molding is present at the top and bottom. An inversely tapered top section, with triangular knee braces create a wide visual connection to the eaves and a framing element to the openings between the piers. Wooden steps under a small gabled entry portico afford access to the porch. Triangular knee braces support the entry roof; the outermost rafter ends are flattened to give a stylistic oriental appearance.

The roof of the wrap porch and the rest of the facade roof is one continuous, medium-pitch sheathed in simulated-shingle composition material. Centered above the entry is a low shed dormer containing two sets of three windows with single-glazed sash. A symmetrical low shed dormer aligns on the east roof with four single-glazed sash windows. Triangular knee braces support the end rafters of the dormer.

The porch wraps around the west and north side of the house. The northwest and southwest corners are rounded, with the balustrade and foundation curved to match. Bricks are spaced 4" apart horizontally in the construction of the foundation to facilitate ventilation under the porch. The wooden balustrade has a flat top rail and square balusters.

Windows flank the main entry door which has three small, rectangular, beveled glass planes in a stepped configuration. Transom windows above have decorative metal muntins in the upper portion with single-glazed lower sash. Window casings are plain and flat typically throughout.

Viewed from the north, the composite piers are present, with a break in the balustrade at a 3'-6" tall corner post, affording access to the wash house, wood shed, garage, and root cellar. Entry into the pantry or stair vestibule, through flush, solid doors, and access to the back yard via stairs enhances the "service" quality of the north side of the house. Triangular knee braces support the end rafters of the side porch roof.

As with the west porch rafters, the ends are flared. A large rectangular window with two fixed sashes allows natural light to illuminate the pantry. Both sashes are glazed with two horizontal panes and four vertical panes. Centered over the porch in the middle of the gable is a pair of double sash, single-glazed windows. Triangular knee braces at the corners and in the gable peak support a fascia board forming an open rake.

The east facade has three individual window openings and one paired set. Transom windows are single-sash and single-glazed. Above the exposed rafter eaves and centered in the upper story is a low shed dormer with window openings. The fixed, single windows are glazed with a 3:3 pattern. Two single-pot chimneys penetrate the roof above the dormer. Both are brick, and square shaped, but the northern most chimney is taller.

Two volumes at the northeast corner project from the predominately single plane of the east facade. The walk-in cooler extends 7' east from the outer pantry wall. The bathroom and shower volume, which is a product of a later remodel, projects 5' from the rest of the facade. The roof of the north porch extends to cover the cooler, while the bathroom/shower is covered by an extension of the main sloping roof, but at a more shallow slope.

The south facade is gabled. The first story is separated visually by a shallow shed roof which extends across to join the roof line of the gabled wing. Two single and one set of paired window openings are placed on the first story. Windows are similar to those on the east facade with decorative metal muntins in the upper portion and single-glazed lower sash. A strip of three windows appears in a shallow bay that projects from this facade. The two side windows in this bay are rectangular, with transom upper sash and single-glazed lower sash. The center window is square and has the same sash arrangement as the smaller windows. A gabled wing with a window projects 10' south from the southeast corner of the facade. Above the bay and centered in the gable is a pair of double sash, single glazed window openings.

A 4' tall wood coral, located south of the Main House, encloses a 50'x100' side yard or pen where horses, or other livestock used in the daily routine of the ranch, could be penned for observation and convenience. The high point in the elevation of the site, on which the Main House sits, offers a dry, grassy area, views to the east across the cattle pens and Squak Slough, and a vantage point to the north, overseeing the machine shop, horse barn, and Hired Hand house.

The Boone/Truly house interior has an arrangement of rooms that clearly separate larger public spaces and smaller private ones. The spatial emphasis is on the "L" shaped living room/dining area space. These rooms share a long perimeter west wall. The west wall has three windows, as previously described, and the main door which is centered above the exterior porch stairs. The north wall shows evidence of an enclosed fireplace at the northwest corner in the dining area.

The north wall of the living room is comprised of a narrow door with plain trim opening from a storage alcove, a fireplace with a glazed tile hearth, and a wide gun closet with a two-panel, hinged door. Two similar-sized bedrooms are accessed through doors in the east wall. A built-in cabinet, with glass-paneled doors, is situated at the east corner of the south wall. The depth of the cabinet is equal to the 1'-8" projection of the window bay.

Rounded, paneled end cabinets sit against the cabinet and the opposite end of the bay. Because of the orientation of the house, and the open yard to the south, warm afternoon light washes the fir tongue and groove floor through the bay windows and western porch windows.

The kitchen is small, and has an unusual, painted, board and batten wood ceiling. Evidence of an enclosed fireplace in the southeast corner suggests that this part of the house may be a remaining section of the original Wilson house. The perimeter wall of the kitchen is characterized by a small window which is flanked by a floor-to-ceiling cabinet and a shallow, glass-paneled cupboard. Under the counter are six small drawers and two large, self-closing bins, which were used for flour and sugar storage. The face of the cabinet are inclined toward the foot of the wall to facilitate additional floor space. A pantry is adjacent to the kitchen on the east side. Presence of exterior horizontal drop siding on the west wall of this room further suggests that the kitchen area was once part of the original Wilson house. A walk-in cooler, constructed of poured concrete with an insulated door, is adjacent to the east side of the pantry. The south wall is a series of different sized shelves, which have likely changed configurations as needs arose.

Three bedrooms, a small bathroom and a sitting area are located on the second floor. Wood stairs, traveling south, approach a landing at approximately the center of the house. Two high ceiling, bright bedrooms, with windows near the top of the wall flank the stairs and corridor to the east and west. The third, rectangular bedroom encompasses the north third of the second floor. Large windows, although north facing, allow plenty of natural light and views of the cattle pens and side yard. A small, centrally located bathroom and a study/sitting area occupy the remaining space. Due to its southern exposure, the study retains warm light throughout the day. Strap detailing, similar to the porch piers, is present in the newel posts of the stair balustrade. A large, paneled hatch on plain hinges with handles can be closed horizontally to prevent infiltration of cold air to the second floor.

Some of the furniture in the current house were owned by Benjamin Boone and may date from the late nineteenth century or early twentieth. These include a roll-top desk and wood office chair, which were used by Boone in his business office; a leather club chair and ottoman; a grandfather clock; and a piano in the living room; and the large dining set in the dining room. Currently the furnishings include several chairs covered with hides. The overall effect of the furniture expresses the era of the house as an early twentieth century ranch dwelling.

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Figure 1. The Main House, Plans. Source: Boyle • Wagoner Architects, January 1997.

