



GORDON KING/Yakima Herald-Republic

This century-old Queen Anne-style Victorian mansion, once the home of orchardists James and Ann Richey, is now slated

for a future as clinic, office and conference space for Yakima Neighborhood Health Services.

# Richey House Finds a Home

Yakima Neighborhood Health Services acquires 100-year-old mansion, plans to move it

By **WES NELSON**  
YAKIMA HERALD-REPUBLIC

Though several blocks apart, Anita Monoian and Don Hinman hit upon a "crazy idea" about the same time in early May.

Monoian had just read a newspaper article about the pending demolition of the historic James Richey home near Miller Park in Yakima and its owners' continued search for someone to take it.

Hinman, who had just parked his car outside the home after driving by, was reaching for his phone.

A piece of Yakima's history was about to find a new home — and salvation.

"It had hit him the same way it hit me," said Monoian, chief executive officer of Yakima Neighborhood Health Services. Her group acquired the 100-year-old Queen

Interstate 82.

The project fizzled, however, leaving Fred Halverson and several other local attorneys who acquired the home six years ago looking for some way to preserve it.

"My first thought was, 'Wow! Wouldn't that be a wonderful addition to our campus?'" Monoian said. "But then I thought, 'Oh, no. That's a crazy idea.'"

That's when the phone rang.

Hinman, chairman of the health service clinic's board of directors, came to a stop while cruising along North Fourth Street with his wife.

"I thought that wouldn't be a bad deal for Yakima Neighborhood Health," Hinman said. "So I called her (Monoian) up right away."

Soon after that, Monoian phoned Fred Halverson, one of the attorneys who

Services campus at 12 S. Eighth St. by late summer or early fall.

"We think it's going to be an absolutely gorgeous addition to our campus," Monoian said. "We're just delighted it's coming our way."

She hopes to have the home on a new foundation by Oct. 1.

Hinman said the clinic has enough money to move the home, but it must still figure out how to pay for a restoration project.

The first floor probably will be restored as "community space" or as a health education center, Monoian said.

The second floor — "pretty well brutalized," Hinman said — will likely be gutted and rebuilt.

Monoian said additional clinical space