

# RAGLESS STREET

Ragless Street in Tenino is named after William Ragless (1849-1941), a pioneer Tenino resident, businessman and entrepreneur. After Stephen Hodgden's death in 1882, he purchased much of Hodgden's Donation Land claim to divide it into lots as an addition to Tenino. Ragless street marks the boundary between the original 1873 Hodgdens Addition plat and Ragless plats.

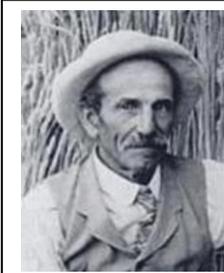


Photo courtesy Quincy Valley Historical Society

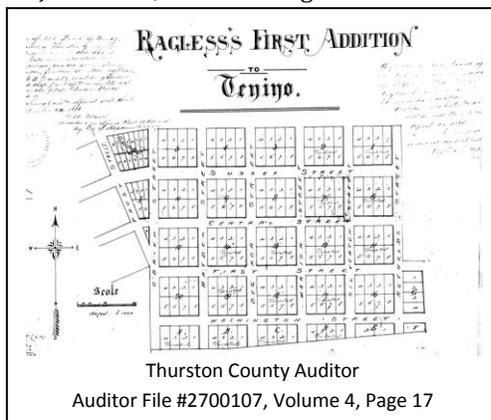
After arriving in the United States in 1870, by 1875 he had arrived in Lewis County where on August 15<sup>th</sup> he married Mary Jane Symons, daughter of Nathan Symons and Mahala Burston, at Lincoln Creek.

In 1877 they were living in Tenino where William was a section boss for the Northern Pacific Rail Road between Tenino and Tacoma for several years.

By 1885, William had turned his hand to farming and shortly thereafter into real estate development, professions he continued even after leaving Tenino.

When Ragless submitted his First Addition plat in April 1890, he named two streets after his home in England: Sussex, after the English county, and Bognor, after the English village where he was born on October 13, 1849 to Joseph Ragless and Mary Jane Rawlins.

In June 1889, The Washington Standard commented "Real estate prospects are constantly improving. The



Thurston County Auditor  
Auditor File #2700107, Volume 4, Page 17

Ragless' addition has engaged the attention of several prospective buyers the past few days, and if the project they have in view is started, a veritable boom will speedily ensue."

However, shortly after the Ragless 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Additions in 1890, he left Tenino due to financial setbacks. By 1893 he was living in Grant County near Quincy where he became well known local figure as "Uncle Billie."

William Ragless died July 17, 1941 and is buried in the Quincy cemetery.

