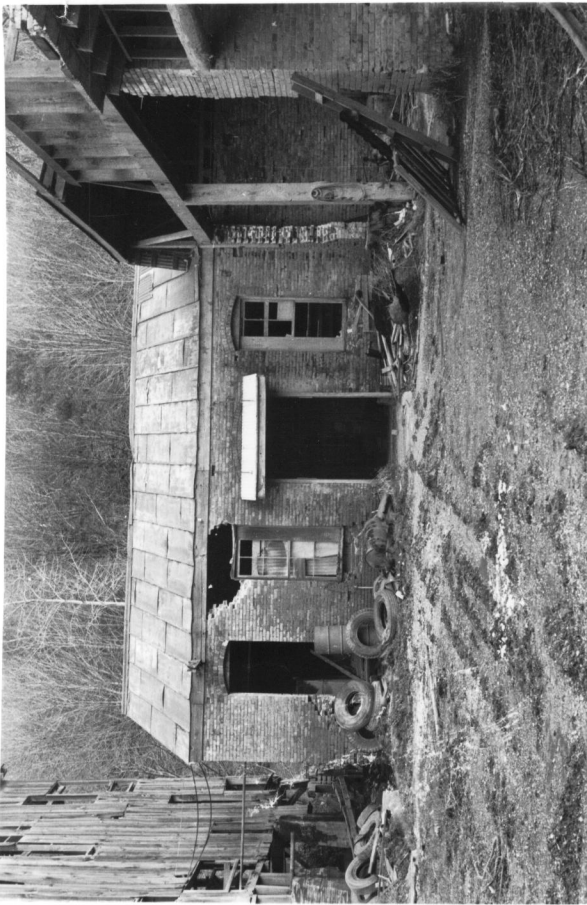


STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
State Historic Preservation Office,
Oregon State Parks, Salem, 97310

Razed April-May, 1976



County Yamhill
Theme 6-B
Name
(Common) Willamina Brick Factory
(Historic) (Willamina Clay Products Co.)
Address Willamina Creek Road
Willamina, Oregon
Present Owner Willamina Lumber Co.
(Address) Willamina, Ore.
Original Use Brickyard
Date of Construction 1907

Physical

historical significance:

The Willamina Clay Products Company plant at Willamina, Oregon, has been one of the largest producers of commercial brick used for construction of major buildings in Oregon. The plant traces its origins to the Pacific Face Brick Company established in Newberg in the 1890's. The company moved to Willamina in 1907 and constructed this factory. Its products included fire box brick used in locomotives in the World War I era as well as for buildings and their exterior facing until the plant's closure in 1974. The last major structure erected and faced with Willamina Company Brick was the Evans Product's Company headquarters (Benjamin Franklin Building) in Portland in the early 1970's.

In March, 1976, the Willamina Lumber Company, the new owner of the factory, began destruction of the kilns and buildings. Virtually all of the equipment, conveyors, tracks, brick carts, office buildings (constructed c. 1907 of brick), kilns, clay washing hoppers, and yards were yet intact on March 15. However, on that day (of my visit) a bulldozer had commenced smashing the massive kilns. The kilns with ten chambers remaining were each approximately thirty feet long by 15 feet wide. They stand about 15 feet high. Some people were at work with picks tearing apart the flues atop the kilns to remove bricks. None of the equipment has been salvaged. Much of it was cast in Boston or elsewhere in the east. The plant consists of approximately six or seven "buildings," many of which are sheds or covers over equipment.

Continue back if necessary

Recorded by Stephen Dow Beckham Date 15 Mar. 1976 Sources Consulted:

for Oregon State Historic Preservation Office Beckham, Stephen Dow. Field Observations,
15 March, 1976, Willamina, Ore.

Please enclose map Township 6 ^N _S Range 7 ^E _W Section 1
(over)

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