

Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME					
address:	Upham St Klamath Falls, Klamath County		historic name:	Linkville Pioneer Cemetery	
assoc addresses:			current/other names:		
location descr:			block/lot/tax lot:		
			twshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:	38S 9E 29	
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS					
resource type:	district	height (stories):		total elig resources:	12
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant			total inelig resources:	1
prim constr date:	1885	second date:	1931	NR Status:	Individually Listed
				date indiv listed:	07/11/2014
primary orig use:	Cemetery		orig use comments:		
second orig use:					
primary style:	Not Applicable		prim style comments:		
secondary style:			sec style comments:		
primary siding:	Earth		siding comments:		
secondary siding:					
plan type:			architect:	J.E. Van Camp (Supervisor)	
			builder:		
comments/notes:					
Owned by City of Klamath Falls; interested in NR listing; HRR on file (ck 04/05/11). Established in 1885. Listed in 2014. DJP					
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS					
Not associated with any surveys or groupings.					
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY					
NR date listed:	07/11/2014		106 Project(s):	None	
ILS survey date:			Special Assess Project(s):	None	
RLS survey date:			Federal Tax Project(s):	None	
ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION					
<i>(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)</i>					
<p>The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is located on a hillside within the city limits of Klamath Falls, Klamath County, Oregon, approximately one half miles north of the downtown area. It is located on Tax Lot R-3809-029DB-00100-000 and is surrounded by single-family residential neighborhoods. The cemetery is 18.22 acres in size and has approximately 5,700 known and 300 unidentified burials, in addition to an undetermined number of burials in the Potter's Field. It has three main parts: the main cemetery; the I.O.O.F. cemetery to the north, which was deeded to the main cemetery in 1951; and the Potter's Field and related grassy area to the west. It contains primarily tablet-style markers within its rectangular boundary. The majority of markers were placed facing west and east. At the south end of the cemetery are two significant stone portals that mark the primary entrances, as well as two other minor entrances with iron gates. The majority of the rest of the cemetery is enclosed by a wire fence. Planted landscaping is prominent in the design of the cemetery, with several lanes, paved and unpaved, named after and mostly bordered by specific types of trees. These trees include maples, elms, and birches, among others. The design of the cemetery reflects the evolution and civic aspirations of the city of Klamath Falls in the early 20th century.</p>					
HISTORY					
<i>(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)</i>					
<p>The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is locally significant under Criterion A for Community Planning and Development and for Social History, with a period of significance of 1885 to 1949. The 1931 redesign of the cemetery represents the concerns of the Klamath Falls citizenry with improving their image. The city of Klamath Falls aspired to create order from what was initially organic development. The cemetery was part of this vision, because it suffered from a lack of fencing and informal burial techniques. The new design, which was much more formal, reflects a time when the city became concerned with planning and design, as well as civic amenities. Representing the social history of the range war conflicts, this cemetery has multiple graves that relate to the disputes that defined the culture of feuds over land and animals for the ranchers. This group of grave markers within the cemetery is a vivid, graphic reminder of these events. The cemetery also portrays the social history of racism associated with events surrounding World War II. It contains markers from the Tule Lake Segregation Center, observing the incarceration of Japanese-American citizens during World War II, as well as a marker from an African-American veteran whose burial caused controversy and reform. In the early 20th century Klamath Falls was one of the fastest growing communities in Oregon. Having been connected to the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1909, and due to its strong timber industry, Klamath Falls grew exponentially at this time. The 1931 redesign of the cemetery coincided with this period of growth for the city. It was a time when the city aspired to civic improvements to better represent its newfound status. The cemetery's improvements represent a landscape aesthetic whose goal was to formalize the cemetery and create a park-type environment for visitors. The previously rural cemetery design was engulfed by the city's growth by the late 1920s and early 1930s. The new improvements included built structures as well as a formal landscape scheme that turned an unkempt space into a desirable location within the city. The majority of features that were developed during this time are still extant and retain a high degree of integrity, including such design features as formal, tree-lined lanes and stone portal entries. This design was felt to more appropriately represent the young community.</p>					
RESEARCH INFORMATION					
<input type="checkbox"/> Title Records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Directories	<input type="checkbox"/> Census Records <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits	<input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives <input type="checkbox"/> State Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs		
Local Library:			University Library:	Oregon Institute of Technology	
Historical Society:			Other Respository:		
Bibliography:					

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