

Cultural Resource Survey Form:

CLACKAMAS COUNTY

T. D. NUMBER _____

PHOTO INFORMATION:

ROLL: LVI
FRAME: 12

STUDY AREA: YODER/MARQUAM
LEGAL: T. 5 R. 1E SEC. 5
TAX (LOTS): 2200
ZONE _____ SIZE 4.59

IDENTIFICATION:

COMMON/HISTORICAL NAME: ROCK CREEK CHURCH
ADDRESS: NW Corner of Stuwe & Sconce Roads AREA: NEEDY
CURRENT OWNER: ROCK CREEK MEMORIAL ASSN. USE: Church
OWNER'S ADDRESS: MoIalla 97038
ORIGINAL OWNER: _____ USE: Church
AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: TOWN: _____ COUNTY: X CITY: _____ NATION: _____

HISTORIC INTEREST:

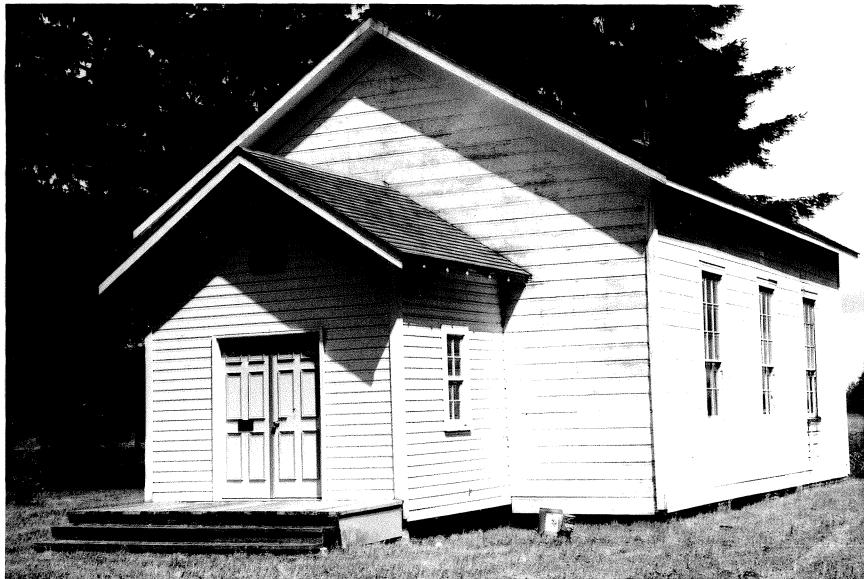
THEME: Architecture - 19th Century; Religion DATE: 1858
DESCRIPTION: People gathered at this site for camp meetings and to hear from the "circuit riders". In 1850, land was donated by Charles & Mary Boynton from their donation land claim for the cemetery and church, was dedicated in 1858. Possibly the oldest remaining church in Clackamas County, still has the original pews.

ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST:

STYLE: Vernacular STORIES: 2
DATE: 1858 CONDITION: Good ARCHITECT: _____
SIDING: Wide shiplap with corner and rake boards
ROOF: Gable with (projecting gabled pavillion) - later addition
DOORS: Replaced . Double. Paneled
WINDOWS: 9/6 double-hung sash with simple molding.

MAIN ENTRANCE: _____

NOTES: Brick foundation. Large peeled log.



BIBLIOGRAPHY:

18, 19

DATE: May 1984

RECORDER: Pinger/Borge
718

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY 1989-92

HISTORIC NAME: ROCK CREEK CHURCH AND CEMETERY
COMMON NAME:
PROPERTY ADDRESS: NW corner of Stuwe and Sconce Roads, Hubbard
OR 97037
OWNER: Rock Creek Cemetery Association
OWNER ADDRESS: 29166 South Barlow Road, Canby OR 97013
RESOURCE TYPE: Building
PRESENT USE: Church
ORIGINAL USE: Church
THEME: Culture: architecture and religion
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
COUNTY: Clackamas
QUAD: Yoder
T/R/S: 5 1E 5
TAX LOT: 2200
ADDITION: N/A
BLOCK: N/A
LOT: N/A
LOT SIZE: 4.59 Acres
ZONE: EFU-20/CR

SETTING: The Rock Creek Church and Cemetery are located on the north side of Sconce Road, a quiet, two-lane thoroughfare. The church is set back from the road. The site is level. The cemetery is southwest of the church building. Across the road to the south is an open field. On the east there is a mid-20th century dwelling. On the north there is a cultivated field. On the west is Rock Creek. The area is predominantly in agricultural use.

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: Ornamental plantings; mature deciduous trees; mature coniferous trees

NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES: None

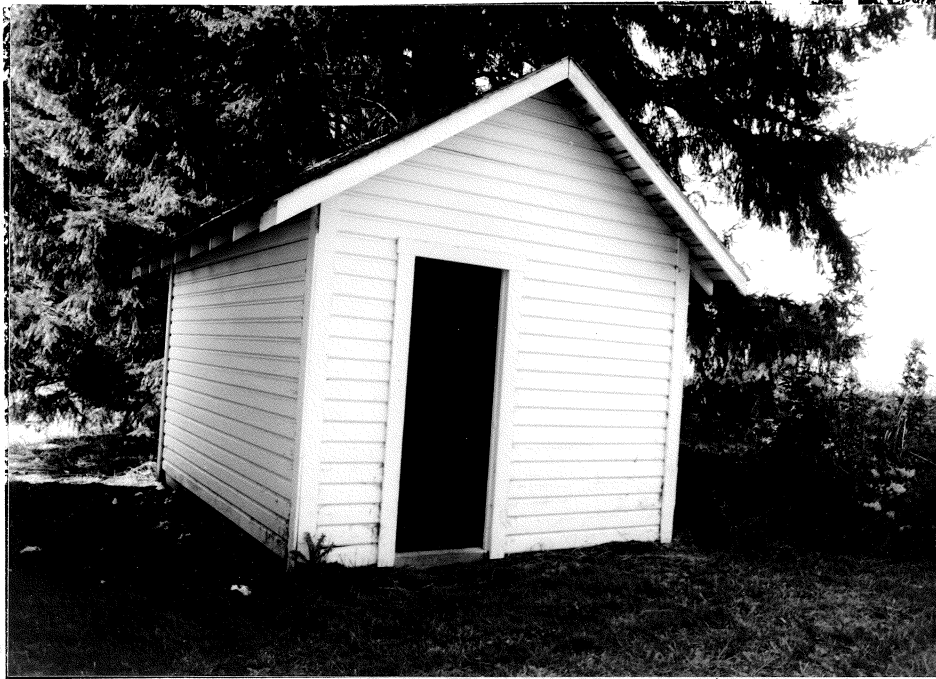
RECORDED BY: Koler/Morrison
DATE: March 1992

SHPO NO.: 718



CHURCH

DATE BUILT: 1858
STYLE: Vernacular
PLAN/TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular
NO. OF STORIES: 1
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Brick
BASEMENT: No
ROOF FORM AND MATERIALS: Gable w/ composition shingles
WALL CONSTRUCTION/STRUCTURAL FRAME: Wood/unknown
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: Nine-over-six double-hung sash w/ plain surrounds
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Extremely wide drop siding w/ cornerboards and rake boards
DECORATIVE FEATURES: None
OTHER: Paired paneled doors; gable roof ell; interior end-wall chimney
CONDITION: Good
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS (DATE): Ell added (n.d.); doors replaced (n.d.); entry stoop replaced (n.d.); shutters removed (n.d.); resided (n.d.)



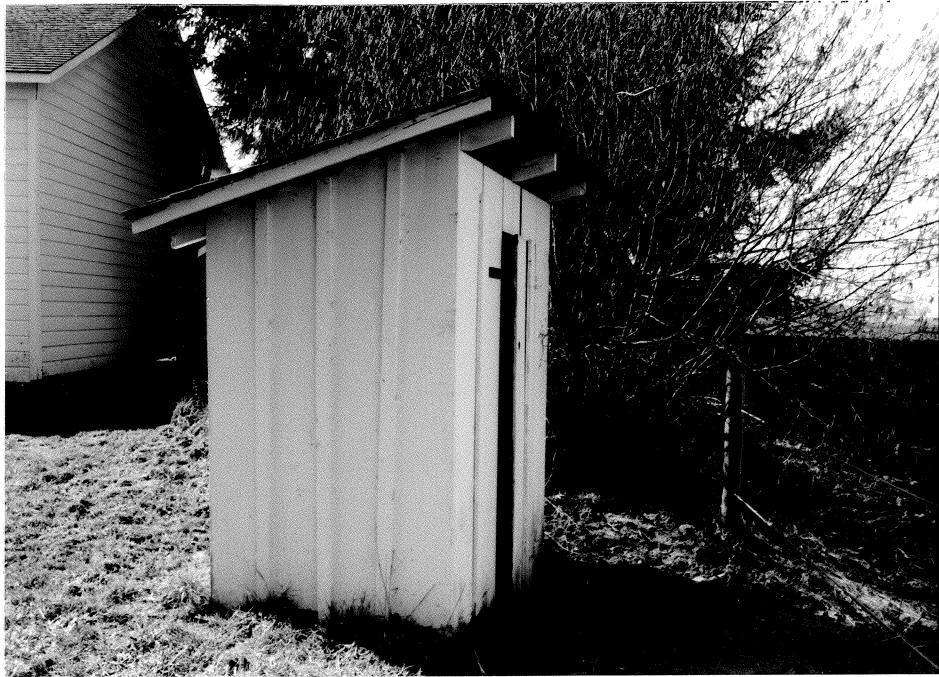
SHED

ESTIMATED DATE BUILT: c. 1900
STYLE: Vernacular
PLAN/TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular
NO. OF STORIES: 1
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Post-and-beam
BASEMENT: No
ROOF FORM AND MATERIALS: Gable w/ composition shingles
WALL CONSTRUCTION/STRUCTURAL FRAME: Wood/unknown
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: None
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Narrow drop siding
DECORATIVE FEATURES: None
OTHER: Door opening
CONDITION: Good
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS (DATE): Door removed (n.d.)



OUTHOUSE #1

ESTIMATED DATE BUILT: c. 1900
STYLE: Vernacular
PLAN/TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular
NO. OF STORIES: 1
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Post-and-beam
BASEMENT: No
ROOF FORM AND MATERIALS: Shed w/ wood shingles
WALL CONSTRUCTION/STRUCTURAL FRAME: Wood/unknown
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: None
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Board-and-batten
DECORATIVE FEATURES: None
OTHER: Hinged door
CONDITION: Poor
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS (DATE): Unknown



OUTHOUSE #2

ESTIMATED DATE BUILT: c. 1900
STYLE: Vernacular
PLAN/TYPE/SHAPE: Rectangular
NO. OF STORIES: 1
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Post-and-beam
BASEMENT: No
ROOF FORM AND MATERIALS: Shed w/ wood shingles
WALL CONSTRUCTION/STRUCTURAL FRAME: Wood/unknown
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: None
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: Board-and-batten
DECORATIVE FEATURES: None
OTHER: Hinged door
CONDITION: Good
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS (DATE): Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Address: Northwest corner of Stuwe and Sconce roads
Historic Name: ROCK CREEK CHURCH AND CEMETERY

The Rock Creek Church and Cemetery are located along Sconce Road, an early 20th century road. Rock Creek is to the south of the subject property. The Rock Creek Church is located within the Charles and Mary Boynton homestead. The resource may be evaluated as an example of a 19th century church and cemetery.

HISTORIC BACKGROUND

SUBJECT PROPERTY

OWNERSHIP

According to county records, Charles O. Boynton received a patent for the property in 1897. According to the "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form," Boynton's widow, Mary Ann Boynton sold the property in 1929 to Sarah S. Coffenberry. The Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church sold the property to the Rock Creek Cemetery in 1930.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Sarah S. Coffenberry (1849-1923), born on the Clatsop plains, was the fourth and last child of James Bond and Laura Jewett Bond. Her father, a baptist minister, was killed before she was born. After the death of her father, Sarah's mother married Ferdinand Ferrell, owner of a sawmill. Sarah grew up in Astoria with them. In 1867, on her 18th birthday, she married Nathan L. Coffenberry. Coffenberry worked in several sawmills. He went to Idaho and worked in the Florence City gold mines for a time. In the 1880s he joined Company E., first regiment of the Oregon volunteers. He was discharged in 1885 without ever seeing action. After his discharge Coffenberry ran an Astoria mill owned by his father-in-law, Ferrell. A fire destroyed the mill, but he built his own mill, the Clatsop Mill. Later the Coffenberrys moved to Hubbard, where Nathan became involved in general construction. It is not currently known how the Coffenberry's were associated with the church. Mrs. Coffenberry may have been one of the trustees. They had two children, Sarah Lillian and George. Lillian married Benjamin Smith and moved into a house across the street from her parents.

The following is extracted from the "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form:"

Constructed in 1858 by early mid-Willamette Valley pioneers, the Rock Creek Methodist Church building became the starting point for the Butteville (later Rock Creek) circuit. John Killin supervised fellow church laymen in the construction of the building....

In 1854, a group of pioneers who had recently immigrated to Oregon and had settled several miles south of Oregon City, gathered in a log schoolhouse near the spot where the Needy Post Office was established a year later. The Rock Creek Methodist Church developed from this meeting.

The Rock Creek Methodist Church, like other Methodist churches in the region, could not afford a full-time pastor (had one been available). Therefore, out of necessity, they joined with other churches and established a circuit. C.O. Hosford served as the first circuit rider. Other stops on the circuit for Reverend Hosford were Butteville, Howell Prairie, Bald Hill, Union School House, Marquam School House, Grassy Point School House, Hubbard, Woodburn, and Glad Tidings. It is doubtful that all of these stops were on the circuit at one and the same time, but they were all constituent parts.

The Rock Creek Methodist Church held services at the local schoolhouse until a wood frame structure was built. A building committee, organized in 1857, developed a building plan and raised the necessary funds. The land for the church and cemetery was donated by the church families. The E.G. Boynton family, early residents of Woodburn now buried in the church cemetery, donated the basic holdings of four and a half acres. John Killin, a layman of the Church, supervised the construction, which was complete in 1858. Samuel Redman Oglesby, another early circuit rider, presided over the first services in the new building. It was not until 1860 that the church had its first resident preacher. However, the Reverend J. Conner's ministry was short-lived. One day, shortly after his arrival, he traveled to Silverton and in the pursuing day's events won a wager and drank the reward, a dram. The elders demanded retribution for this sinful act and Reverend Conner left the Rock Creek Church.

Church activities continued in a less public fashion until 1920 when a regular services were discontinued as a result of financial instability and ebbing attendance. The edifice has since remained unused except for funerals, an occasional wedding, and an annual pioneer day picnic. The Rock Creek Cemetery Association maintains the cemetery and church building through funds given at the pioneer picnics and other occasions. In 1939 the Methodist Conference designated the Rock Creek Methodist Church a historic shrine.

ARCHITECTURAL/PHYSICAL INFORMATION

The following is extracted from the "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form:

Clusters of oak trees are interspersed through the cemetery which surrounds the church. The one-story building has a rectangular floor plan, approximately 20 by 24 feet.

The gable roof is shingled and has a plain boxed cornice. The exterior walls are covered with drop siding. Fenestration is regular with double-hung sash, with nine lights-over-six. There are three windows on either side. The east and west ends are blind. Brick piers provide the foundation.

The vestibule is a later addition. Two features differ from the original section. The rafters are exposed and the two windows are double-hung sash, four-lights-over-four. The vestibule has five-panel double-leaf doors. Repairs and restoration have been accomplished over the years by the Rock Creek Cemetery Association organization which provides a sinking fund for future maintenance.

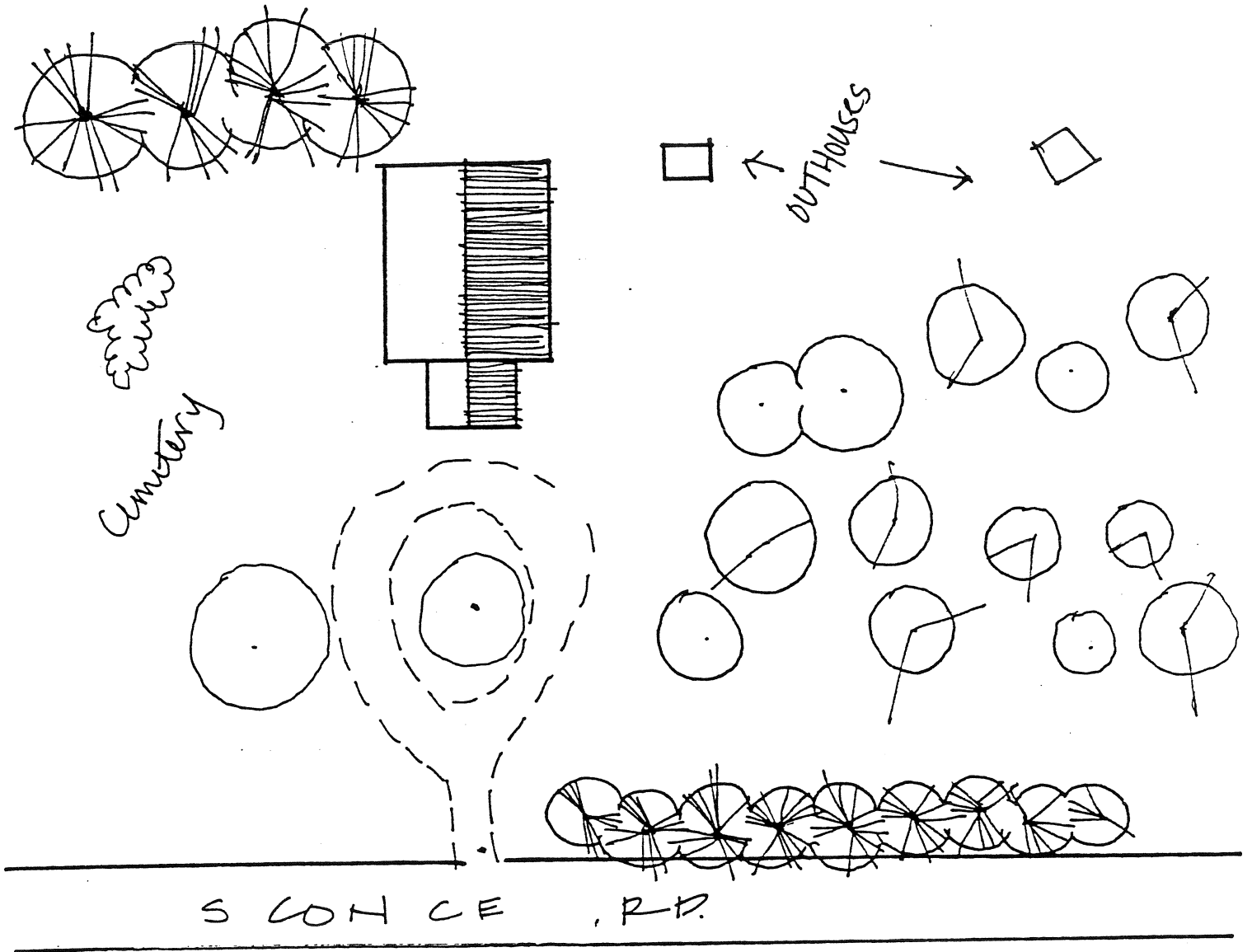
SIGNIFICANCE

The Rock Creek Church and Cemetery are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The church and cemetery are significant for their association with the religious and architectural history of Clackamas County. The church is significant as a singular example of a Vernacular style church, dating from the Settlement, Statehood and Steampower period (1847-1865), listed on the Clackamas County Cultural Resource Inventory for the Yoder/Marquam South County study area. The church is additionally significant as one of seven churches listed on the inventory from the subject study area.

Bibliography: Clackamas County Cultural Resource Inventory, 1984.
Clackamas County Tax Assessor records, Oregon City, OR.
Hartwig, Paul, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form," August 1973.
Oregon Journal, 9 June 1923, p. 4.
TICOR Title Company, Oregon City, OR.

SITE PLAN

Address: Northwest corner of Stuve and Sconce roads
Historic Name: ROCK CREEK CHURCH AND CEMETERY



VICINITY MAP

Address: Northwest corner of Stuwe and Sconce roads
Historic Name: ROCK CREEK CHURCH AND CEMETERY

