

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
POLK COUNTY

Name: HELMICK PARK
Location: 4 MILES S. OF MONMOUTH ON LUCKIAMUTE RIVER
Quadrangle: MONMOUTH, OREGON (7.5')

T/R/S: 9/5/24
Taxlot: 202



Negative No.:

Slide No.:



5/17

Statement of Significance (Historical and/or architectural importance, dates, events, person, contexts), use additional sheets if necessary:

Helmick Park is significant as the first state park in Polk county. The land was presented to the state by Mrs. Henry (Sarah) Helmick in 1922, to be used by the citizens of Oregon as a state park and wayside along Highway 99W, which was then in its final phase of construction.

Part of the Helmick donation land claim, the park lies immediately south of Helmick Hill, and west of old 99W (Helmick Road).

Henry and Sarah Helmick were married in April, 1845, in Burlington, Iowa, and began the overland trek to Oregon the following day. In the fall of 1846 they settled on their donation land claim on the Luckiamute and engaged in general farming. Between 1846 and Henry's death in 1877, they acquired considerable land holdings; and in 1878, Sarah Helmick built a home in Albany where she retired.

"September 12, 1924, when the West Side Highway was dedicated Governor Walter Pierce and other officials of the state, and 7000 people from the Willamette Valley, through which the highway runs, and in which Albany, Oregon, the home of "Grandma" [Sarah Helmick] is located, came to honor her, and pay tribute to the spirit which prompted the generous gift [Helmick Park]."
(Oregon Historical Quarterly 1926:447)

SHPO Inventory No:

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Helmick State Park

Historic Name: SARA AND HENRY HELMICK DONATION LAND CLAIM

Common Name: HELMICK PARK

Original Use: PUBLIC PARK

Location: FOUR MILES SOUTH OF MONMOUTH, WEST SIDE
OF HELMICK ROAD AT OLD FORT ROAD

Present Use: PUBLIC PARK

Theme: CULTURE/RECREATION

Owner: STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANS., STATE PARKS DIVISION

Land Donor: SARAH HELMICK

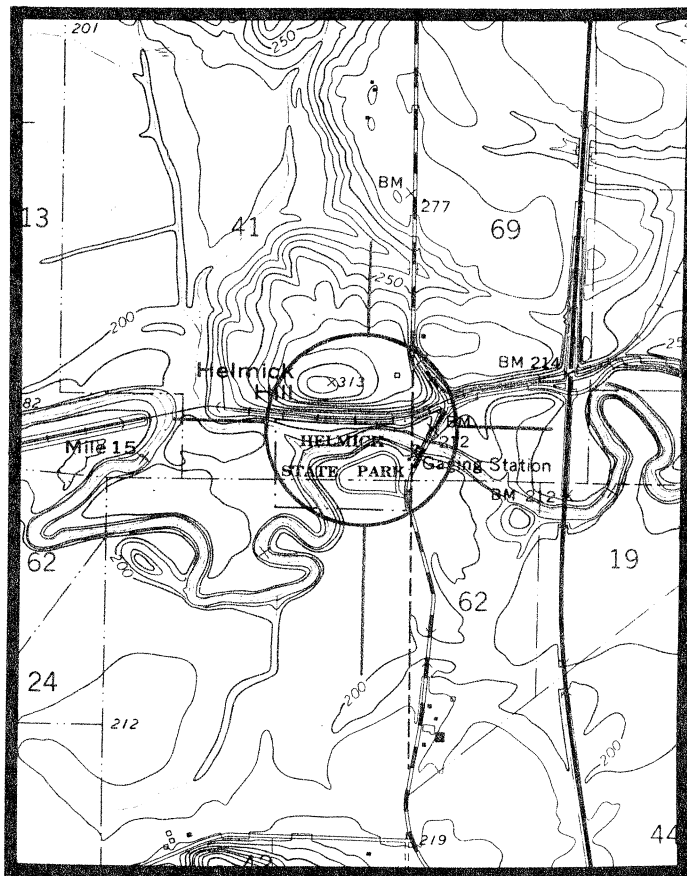
Date Established: 1924

T/R/S/taxlot: 9/5/24/202

Quadrangle: MONMOUTH, OREGON (7.5')

Resource Type: Bldg. Structure District Site Object

Setting: SARAH HELMICK STATE PARK IS LOCATED ON THE BANK OF THE LUCKIAMUTE RIVER AT HELMICK ROAD. THE AREA IS A DEVELOPED PARK WITH GRASSY AREAS AND MANY MATURE CONIFER AND DECIDUOUS TREES. THE SURROUNDING AREA CONTAINS SOME WOODED AREAS, BUT FOR THE MOST PART CONSISTS OF AGRICULTURAL USES.



Noteworthy Landscape Features: MATURE CONIFER AND DECIDUOUS TREES

Associated Structures: NONE

Condition: WELL MAINTAINED

SHPO Inventory No.: *271*