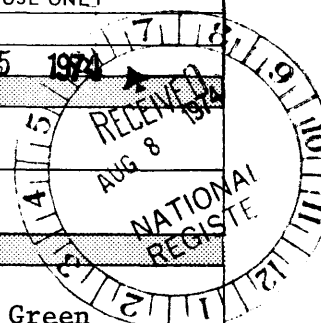


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oregon
 COUNTY: Multnomah
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: NOV 5 1974



210 2543000

1. NAME
 COMMON: Vista House
 AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: Columbia River Scenic Highway Representative Edith Green
 CITY OR TOWN: Crown Point CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Oregon Third Congressional District
 STATE: Oregon CODE: 41 COUNTY: Multnomah CODE: 051

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Oregon State Highway Division
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon CODE: 97310 41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Multnomah County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings
 DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Parks and Recreation Section
 STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Building
 CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

STATE: Oregon
 COUNTY: Multnomah
 ENTRY NUMBER: NOV 5 1974
 DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

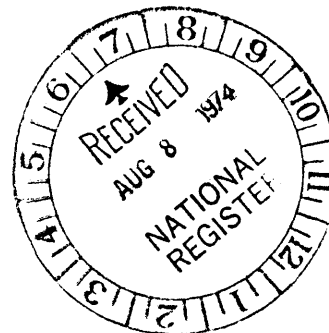
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The official opening of the Columbia River Highway from Portland to Hood River through the Columbia River Gorge marked the completion of a tremendous feat of highway construction. On June 6, 1916 at Crown Point, which is situated 725 feet above the river with a commanding view of the gorge, the highway was dedicated. On that rocky promontary in the same year, construction began on the Vista House, which was to be an observatory and rest stop. It was designed by Portland architect Edgar Lazarus in a style closely related to the German Jugendstil. Construction of Vista House, which is dedicated to early Oregon Pioneers, was completed in 1918. The cost of the house and its appurtenances was about \$100,000.

The dry masonry foundation was laid by native Italian craftsmen. The substructure is 64 feet in diameter. The octagonal superstructure of reinforced concrete is 44 feet in diameter and 55 feet in height. The interior was reported to be electrically ventilated. Floors and walls were faced with marble and trimmed in light cream and pink Kasota stone. The interior of the dome was lined with bronze. A tunnel which connected the structure with the highway on the north, or lower side, was lined with marble. The exterior facing was of light gray sandstone. The roof covering was reported to be Matt glazed green tile. The sidewalls, roadway, embankment and driveway are eccentric circles. The center of the structure is on tangent to the center of the highway. The eight steps of the octagon are concentric.

Exterior alterations to the house have been minimal but the interior has been modified to accommodate a concessionaire. Current plans call for the removal of the concessionaire and the restoration of the building to its original state.

Vista House is owned and maintained by the Oregon State Highway Division as part of the Crown Point State Park and is in good condition.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE		Oregon	
COUNTY		Multnomah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY			
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE	
		NOV 5 1974	

(Number all entries)

VISTA HOUSE (CONTINUED)

2. Location

Vista House is located atop Crown Point in the SW 1/4 Sec. 30 T.1N. R.5E. of the Willamette Meridian, Multnomah County, Oregon.



4. SIGNIFICANCE

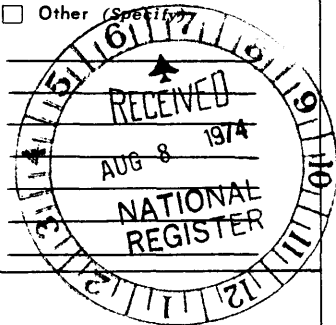
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1918**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Vista House at Crown Point on the old Columbia River Highway is an important phenomenon of the early automobile age in Oregon. Built as an observatory and rest station commanding a spectacular view of the Columbia Gorge, the structure was executed in an appropriately non-historic, or early modern style, closely related to the German Jugendstil.

Samuel Lancaster, Consulting Engineer for the Columbia River Highway, conceived the idea of an observation point at Crown Point, reportedly in connection with plans Richard Temple Dabney was developing for a large tourist hotel. Elaborating on the proposal, W. E. Conklin is said to have suggested the formation of an association to raise funds for the project. The original membership of the Vista House Association was made up by 52 prominent Portland business and civic leaders. It was the Vista House Association which conceived the idea of commemorating Oregon pioneers in the structure. The hexagon walls inside are inscribed with the names of revered pioneers, John McLoughlin, Jesse Applegate, James W. Nesmith, Joseph Lane, Asahel Bush, Mathew Paul Deady, the Rev. Jason Lee and Marcus Whitman. In 1929 a bronze tablet was placed in the Vista House in memory of Lieutenant William R. Broughton of the British Navy, who in 1792 sailed up the Columbia past Crown Point, as a member of Vancouver's Expedition, and named Mount Hood. Vista House was built under the direction of John B. Yeon, Multnomah County Roadmaster.

Designer of the structure was Portland architect Edgar M. Lazarus. Lazarus was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1868 and died in Portland in 1939. During his 45-year career in Portland, he was a member of the architectural firm of Lazarus, Whitehouse and Fouilhoux. During his lifetime he was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Other Oregon buildings designed by Lazarus included the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition Agricultural Palace, no longer standing. Reportedly, Lazarus was the local supervising architect for Portland's Italianate US Customs House of 1901.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ross, Marion D., A Century of Architecture in Oregon. Women's Architectural League of the Oregon Chapter of the AIA, 1959. p. 13.

"Oregon to Honor Rugged Pioneers," Sunday Oregonian (Portland), April 28, 1918, p. 16.

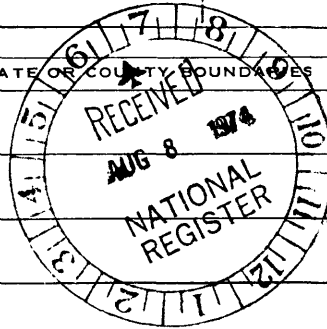
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . .	0 . .		45 0 32 . 23 .	122 0 14 . 36 .	
NE	0 . .	0 . .				
SE	0 . .	0 . .				
SW	0 . .	0 . .				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paul Hartwig, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: Oregon State Highway Division DATE: July 26, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

David S. Fullmer
Name

Title State Parks Superintendent

Date August 2, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. P. Neutensen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/5/74

ATTEST:
Charles D. Henry
Keeper of The National Register

Date 11.1.74



Multnomah County, Oregon
Vista House

Vista House

Multnomah Co

Crown Point

Oregon

PC - Oregon State
Highway Division

7
38
1

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

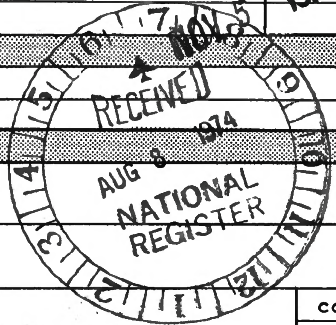


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	Oregon
COUNTY	Multnomah
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	1974



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Vista House
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Columbia River Scenic Highway
CITY OR TOWN: Crown Point
STATE: Oregon CODE: 41 COUNTY: Multnomah CODE: 051

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Oregon State Highway Division
DATE OF PHOTO: 1971
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Travel Bureau, Oregon State Highway Division, Salem, Oregon 97310

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Looking North. Note craftsmanship in rockwork in foreground. Similar rockwork found all along the old Columbia River Highway.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

2072