Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address:	3055 Willakenzie Rd Eugene, Lane County	**historic name:**	Willakenzie Grange Hall
		current/other names:	
assoc addresses:		**block/lot/tax lot:**	
location descr:		**twnshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:**	17S 3W 21

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type:	Building	**height (stories):**	2.0	**total elig resources:**	1	**total inelig resources:**	1
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant			**NR Status:**	Individually Listed		
prim constr date:	1913	**second date:**		**date indiv listed:**	01/22/2009		

primary orig use:	Meeting Hall	**orig use comments:**	Used as Grange Hall,school, farmers' market
second orig use:			
primary style:	Bungalow (Type)	**prim style comments:**	
secondary style:		**sec style comments:**	Vernacular
primary siding:	Vertical Board	**siding comments:**	
secondary siding:			
plan type:	Rectangular Block	**architect:**	
		builder:	

comments/notes:

GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

Survey/Grouping Included In:	Type of Grouping	Date Listed	Date Compiled
Willakenzie Road Selective RLS Survey	Survey & Inventory Project		2009

SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed:	01/22/2009
ILS survey date:	
RLS survey date:	
Gen file date:	10/31/2007

106 Project(s)

SHPO Case	Date	Agency Effect Eval
09-2298	11/25/2009	no adverse effect

Special Assess Project(s):	None
Federal Tax Project(s):	None

ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Includes expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings and alterations)

INTRODUCTION: Willakenzie Grange Hall is located in a residential neighborhood at 3055 Willakenzie Rd. in Eugene, Lane County, OR. Constructed in 1913, the building is representative of the Grange Movement that began in 1867 as a means of encouraging agricultural communities to work together for their common economic and political good. Historically, Willakenzie Grange Hall was used as a central meeting place for rural families farming the flood plains between the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers. Today, Willakenzie Grange is still active in the area with 29 regular members as well as an enthusiastic group of “Junior Grangers.” The property has one contributing resource consisting of the grange building itself. The property’s only non-contributing resource is a detached storage shed on the north side of the building. Willakenzie Grange Hall is in very good condition and maintains six of the seven recognized aspects of historical integrity, excluding integrity of setting due to a loss of the building’s original agricultural surroundings. SETTING: Originally adjacent to the Bogart schoolhouse (1854-1923) and surrounded by open farmland, today Willakenzie Grange Hall is located in a growing residential neighborhood. The building is constructed on a flat plain of land and sits on a .84 acre rectangular lot that is bordered on the south by Willakenzie Rd, the north and east by an L-shaped grass-covered lot, and the west by neighboring single-family homes. The lot itself has trees on the west and north sides and a large paved parking lot on the east side. The front façade of the building faces south towards Willakenzie Rd. The property is accessible by a paved entrance drive between the parking lot and Willakenzie Rd. A public sidewalk runs along Willakenzie Rd. in front of the building and is separated from the road by a curb. In addition, a short concrete sidewalk leads from the front step of the building to the parking lot. The parking lot itself is curbed to separate it from the grass on the east side of the building. The south and east elevations of Willakenzie Grange Hall are landscaped with manicured bushes and other plants. The southeast corner of the building is set off by a small triangular group of plantings and stones that have been surrounded by a row of bricks set into the ground. This area has been filled in with mulch and gravel. The north and west sides of the property contain several large maple trees. The far north side of the property contains a brick and stone masonry fireplace built in 1944 as a recreational addition to the property. In large part, this fireplace has been dismantled, however elements of the rough stone surround and brick hearth remain. The existing fireplace is approximately 4’2” tall and 3’ wide. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS: The building is a 2,440 sq. ft., two-story, vernacular meeting hall with a modified rectangular plan, recessed front porch, and a Craftsman-style front-gable roof with bracketed eave overhangs. Willakenzie Grange Hall is wood framed and measures 64’ x 32’, excluding rectangular kitchen and bathroom additions to the north and west that measure 12’ x 22’ and 16’ x 8’, respectively. The continuous-perimeter foundation of the building is poured concrete. The building is sided with wood shiplap that has been painted white. The front-gabled main roof is covered in asphalt shingles, as are the smaller hipped and flat roofs that cover the west and north projections; one brick chimney bisects the gable on the north end of the roof. EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION: All of the windows are wood framed and are of three kinds: one-over-one double-hung, three-sash fixed ribbon, and single-pane fixed-sash. The building also contains four wooden entry doors, two of which are smooth, and two of which are paneled. A fourth door exists, but has been rendered inoperable by the addition of an exterior staircase that blocks its way. The front façade of the building (the south elevation) contains three one-over-one double-hung windows (two at second-story level, one at ground-floor level) and a recessed porch supported by a metal rod at the southeast corner. The porch floor is poured concrete and matches the level of the concrete foundation on the rest of the building. There is one concrete step on the east side of the porch. Originally, a short (approximately 2’6”) wooden wall enclosed the porch on the south and east sides, ending where the step meets the porch. This wall has since been replaced with a wooden railing that borders the open south and east sides of the porch and is used as a handhold on either side of the concrete step. Two smooth wooden doors lead from the porch to the interior of the building. Above the second-floor windows on the south elevation, five rows of white painted wood shingles replace the shiplap siding where the words “WILLAKENZIE GRANGE” are mounted in black-painted wooden letters. Above this, five wooden brackets support the overhanging eave of the gable. The east elevation contains eight one-over-one double-hung windows, four on the ground floor and four on the second floor. Rafters are exposed along the length of the building on the east and west elevations. The north elevation supports a flight of wooden stairs that lead to a second-floor door, both of which were added after the building’s initial construction as a fire escape in 1952. The staircase blocks an original ground-level door, and as a result, this door is no longer a viable entryway. In addition, a small square window opening alongside this original door has since been boarded up and painted over. A rectangular, one-story addition has also been added to the north elevation of the building. This addition functions as a kitchen extension and contains one three-sash ribbon of windows on its north side, as well as a wooden entry door on its east side. The kitchen addition is covered with an asphalt-shingled shed roof. In the northeast corner between the north addition and the original building there is a small shed-roofed storage closet attached which is accessible from the outside by means of a moveable wooden panel. The west elevation of Willakenzie Grange Hall contains four one-over-one double-hung windows at second-floor level; at ground-floor level there are three one-over-one double-hung windows and one three-sash ribbon window. The west elevation also projects a one-story addition that functions as bathroom space. It contains two small horizontal fixed-sash windows on its west side and is covered by an asphalt-shingled hipped roof. Both the north and west additions have projecting eaves and rafters and wooden shiplap siding in keeping with the architectural detailing of the original building. The only outbuilding on the lot is a 14’ x 12' detached storage shed on the north side of the property. This white-painted plywood shed is covered by a front-gabled, asphalt-sheet roof and sits on a buried cement block foundation. Because it was built after the building’s period of significance, the shed is a non-contributing resource to this site. INTERIOR DESCRIPTION: Inside, the

building consists of two floors that are linked by an interior half-turn staircase. Both floors contain well-cared-for examples of the natural-finish Craftsman woodwork that functions as a distinct character-defining feature from the building's period of significance. Examples include the main staircase, the wainscoting and door and window casings common to both floors, and the posts and beams of the ground floor. The ground level of Willakenzie Grange Hall is accessible through the main entrance on the building's south side as well as through the kitchen-addition entrance on the north side. Originally designed to function as a dining and work area, the first floor contains three distinct spaces: the vestibule with men's and women's bathrooms, the large multi-purpose room, and the kitchen. All spaces contain lath-and-plaster ceilings and walls. The vestibule (10' x 20' without bathrooms) is located in the southernmost end of the building and acts as the building's primary entrance space, separating the primary outer door from the dining hall. The vestibule contains the base of the staircase, a double-hung window and cantilevered shelf/coat rack on the south wall, and separate men's and women's bathrooms on the west end of the space. Both bathrooms measure approximately 7' x 7' and contain 4' tall painted wood wainscoting, plaster walls and ceilings, and linoleum tile flooring. A standard doorway leads directly from the vestibule into the southern end of the multi-purpose room. The multi-purpose room (35' x 32') is the largest room on the ground floor and can be accessed through the vestibule, the kitchen, or through a separate exterior door located in the southeast corner of the room. Varnished wooden wainscoting (3' 6" high, with chair rail) covers the bottom portion of the multi-purpose room walls and runs the entire perimeter of the room, broken only by the kitchen, vestibule, and exterior doorways. The north end of the multi-purpose room contains the building's original furnace. Linoleum flooring covers the entire floor, save the brick base around the furnace. Six varnished wooden structural posts are spaced at regular intervals throughout the room. Three double-hung windows are equally spaced on the east wall, and are mirrored by three equally spaced double-hung windows on the west wall. The wall separating the multi-purpose room and the kitchen is punctuated by two large pass-through windows on either side of a central doorway. The L-shaped kitchen (12' x 32' with 11' x 12' projection) is the northernmost space on the ground floor and is accessible through the multi-purpose room and through an exterior door on the north end of the building. Built-in painted wood cabinetry, shelving, and Formica counters run the perimeter of the kitchen, save for doorways (on the south and east walls) and spaces reserved for kitchen appliances (including two electric stoves/ranges on the original north wall, stainless steel sinks on the extended north wall, and an older porcelain sink on the west wall. One three-sash ribbon window exists on the west wall, with a second on the north wall; the east wall contains a double-hung window. Like the multi-purpose room, the kitchen flooring is a linoleum cover with lath-and-plaster walls and ceiling. The upper floor is accessible through the interior vestibule staircase, as well as through an exterior wooden staircase fixed to the north facade of the building. Like the ground floor, the upper level consists of three distinct spaces: anteroom, main hall, and stage. Aside from the backstage area, the upper floor is entirely carpeted with the original flooring remaining underneath. The anteroom (11' x 12') is the southernmost space on the upper floor and is adjacent to the upper level stair landing. The anteroom is accessible through a doorway on the stair landing and through the door connecting the anteroom with the main hall. The stair landing is also directly connected to the main hall through a separate doorway. Both spaces contain lath and plaster walls and ceiling and varnished wooden baseboards (10" high). The anteroom also contains a varnished wooden rail with metal coat-hooks that runs the perimeter of the room; one double-hung window exists on the south wall of the anteroom, with a second double-hung window on the south wall of the stair landing. The main hall (38' x 32') is the largest room on the upper floor and is accessible through the landing and anteroom doors on its south side. The north end of the hall contains a stage and flanking doors that lead backstage. The hall's lath and plaster walls are accented by varnished wooden wainscoting that runs the length of each wall, save that which contains the stage and its two side doors. Three equally-spaced double-hung windows exist on the east wall of the main hall and are mirrored by three equally-spaced double-hung windows on the west wall. The original ceiling is obscured by applied acoustical tiles which follow the rounded edges of the room, creating a coved ceiling. The stage space consists of the main stage itself as well as side- and backstage areas (14' x 32' total). The stage and its surrounding space can be accessed through the doors on either side of the stage, as well as through the use of two carpeted wooden steps that lead from the main hall to center stage. The stage itself is carpeted, but the original wooden floorboards remain uncovered in the backstage areas. The plaster ceiling remains uncovered in this space as well. Two double-hung windows exist in the backstage space – one on the east wall, one on the west. ALTERATIONS: Since its construction, Willakenzie Grange Hall has undergone a series of minor alterations, including two structural modifications during the period of significance. In 1934 modifications were made to the first floor north interior walls to create a juvenile room. In 1942 a rectangular 16' x 8' first-floor bathroom extension was added to the south end west elevation. Otherwise, only slight modifications have been made since 1913. Oil lamps were utilized on the building's interior until October of 1924 when gas lights were installed; by November of the next year, however, the gas lighting had already been replaced by electric lighting. In August of 1944, a masonry fireplace was constructed in the northeast corner of the lot in commemoration of the men and women then serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. The structure has since been rendered inoperable, but current grangers have plans to restore it to its original state. In 1949 a first-floor one-over-one double-hung window was added to the north end of the east elevation. In 1952 a wooden staircase and second-story exterior door was added to the north elevation of the building as an exterior fire escape. In 1955, the original wooden floorboards on the ground floor were covered over with linoleum flooring to facilitate cleaning. The original wood furnace used to heat the building is still functioning as the only source of heat in the space, but has since been converted to run on oil rather than wood in 1966. Since 1958, the end of the building's period of significance, Willakenzie Grange Hall has undergone very few significant alterations. Inside the building, the 12' x 22' kitchen extension was added to the west side of the first floor north elevation in 1961. The extension included the addition of a one-over-one window on the north end of the east elevation. Acoustic tile was added to the ceiling in the upstairs main hall in 1964. In 1979, the second floor was carpeted, as was the stairway; like the ground floor, however, the original flooring remains underneath. The concrete walkway in front of the hall was poured in 1983. Undated alterations include modifications to the original porch wall and the removal of one chimney. Originally, the recessed porch contained a short wooden porch wall that has since been removed and replaced by a simple wood railing running along the open south and east sides of the porch, leaving an opening for the concrete step on the east side. Also unknown is when the center chimney was removed. Today, only the northernmost chimney remains. Fundraising is currently underway for in-kind replacement of the asphalt-shingled roof as well as for restoration of the original short wooden porch wall. Overall, Willakenzie Grange Hall retains a high degree of integrity, is well maintained, and remains in good condition. The building still clearly reflects the time period in which it was built as well as its unique Craftsman-vernacular style.

HISTORY

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period - preferably to the present)

INTRODUCTION: Willakenzie Grange Hall, a vernacular-style meeting hall, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the Grange Movement in Lane County, Oregon. Having local significance in the area of Social History and Agriculture, the building represents the combined efforts of a local grassroots organization to promote the welfare of society and to actively support farmers' interests and individual rights. Today, Willakenzie Grange Hall is listed as a City of Eugene Historic Landmark and stands as a reminder of the once-dominant agricultural community that occupied the region since its earliest pioneer settlement. Built in 1913 to serve as a meeting hall for Willakenzie Grange #498, the building retains six of the seven recognized aspects of historic integrity including location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Integrity of setting has been lost due to the conversion of the original surrounding farmland to residential and commercial construction. The property's period of significance begins in 1913 with the building's construction and ends in 1958, the fifty-year threshold, reflecting continuing activities and influence of the Grange from the organization's founding to the present. THE NATIONAL GRANGE MOVEMENT: Formally known as the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, the Grange is the nation's oldest national agricultural organization with grassroots units established in 3,600 local communities across thirty-seven states. With over 300,000 members, the Grange provides service to rural areas on issues such as "economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a strong and viable rural America." Similar to the unions that were formed to represent industrial workers during the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, the Grange was formed in 1867 to protect farmers from railroad companies, warehouse owners, merchants, and other businesses who threatened to take advantage of them. The inspiration to form such an association came in 1866 when President Andrew Johnson commissioned Oliver Hudson Kelley – then a clerk in the agricultural bureau in Washington, DC – to provide a survey of agricultural conditions in the post-war South. On his travels, Kelley witnessed the plight of countless disheartened, apathetic, and frustrated farmers scattered throughout the devastated South. This tour, along with his experience farming the Minnesota prairie, awakened Kelley to the "utterly helpless condition of the farming interest, not only of the South, but of the whole country…The farmers were scattered, divided in opinions, almost indifferent to their condition, and without any means of expressing or enforcing their views as a body. It seemed clear to Kelley that if a remedy was to be found for the evils that he encountered, it must be in the associated and harmonious action of the farming class." As a member of the Masonic fraternity, Kelley believed that a "Secret Society of Agriculturists" would bring countless advantages to farmers and agricultural workers throughout the country, not the least of which was a restoration of "kindly feelings among the people." As a result, Kelley, along with six other government officials who shared his beliefs, founded the National Order of the Patrons of Husbandry in December of 1867 as a fraternal organization designed to unite and give voice to the country's scattered and unorganized farm population. Together, the seven founders elected officers, composed the order's constitution, and soon developed a meeting ritual that would be carried out at all future assemblies of the order. At a time when America was struggling with the burden of post-war reconstruction, the newly formed Grange (as the order came to be known, derived from the Latin granium, meaning "farm") enabled farmers north and south to join together to speak out on issues important to the common welfare of rural America. This was especially needed in the later years of the nineteenth century as the new technologies of the Industrial Revolution had quickened the pace of industry and had increased the number of capitalists and railroad monopolies that threatened to exploit private farmers. Shortly after the first official meeting of the National Grange in January of 1868, the first subordinate grange, Potomac Grange No. 1, was formed in Washington DC as a "practice grange" for the emerging ritual work. In April of that year, founding father O. H. Kelley set off on a journey to spread news of the virtues of grange membership to farmers throughout rural America who had yet to hear of the organization. Largely through Kelley's efforts and the advocacy of independent farmers' newspapers, local granges were formed first in Eastern and Midwestern states, and later in the West and Northwest. By September of 1873, the total number of subordinate granges had reached 6,062; less than a month later the number had reached 6,914, prompting J.D. McCabe, a contemporary chronicler of the movement to write, "The number of Granges in the United States is increasing so rapidly that it is hard to give an accurate statement concerning them;" however, "the number of members may be safely estimated at about half a million." After a decline in membership in the 1880s, nationwide grange membership leveled off and has since fluctuated between 150,000 and 300,000 members. From the outset, the Grange was designed as a three-tiered organization that would effectively provide private

farmers with an official channel through which to communicate with outside influences on local, state, and national levels. A local, or subordinate, grange was traditionally formed through a charter issued by its respective state grange. In turn, each state grange reported its business to the National Grange located in Washington D.C. In 1874, county, or Pomona, granges were added to the organization in order to facilitate the far-flung administrative duties of state granges. Although this multi-tiered structure was in place from the earliest days of the organization, subordinate granges were usually established prior to the initiation of county or state granges in areas where the Movement was just beginning. Since the beginning of the organization, grange halls across the country were used not only as meeting places for local grange chapters, but also served as community centers where social, educational, and charity events regularly took place. Most granges also opened their doors to local community groups and organizations in an effort to foster a spirit of cooperation within the community. As a result, the Grange organization was of major significance within isolated rural communities where local grange halls stood alone as places for social interaction and as a headquarters for community service projects. THE GRANGE MOVEMENT IN OREGON Since its earliest years of settlement, Oregon has been an agricultural state with private farming enterprises scattered throughout. From individual county fairs in the 1850s to the inception of the Oregon State Fair in 1861, Oregon farmers saw advantages in the practice of gathering together to share ideas, concerns, and advice. For this reason, dense agricultural areas like the Willamette Valley saw the formation of farmers' clubs beginning in the early 1870s. The number of such clubs in Oregon began to decline, however, by the mid-1870s when the Grange Movement began to gain momentum throughout the state. By the winter of 1872-73, the Grange Movement had reached the agricultural communities of Oregon, due in large part to the efforts of W.J. Campbell of Clackamas County. In January of 1873, Campbell succeeded in establishing the first subordinate grange in Oregon in Marshfield (present-day Clackamas), Clackamas County. Campbell and other early Oregon grangers actively organized other grassroots granges throughout the length of the Willamette Valley. After thirty-seven subordinate granges had been established in the state, the Oregon State Grange met for the first time in Salem on September 24, 1873. From that time Unti today, the State Grange has been responsible for overseeing the membership, activities, and formation of subordinate and Pomona granges throughout the state. Because State Grange policies originate at the subordinate and Pomona levels, the State Grange is often considered to be uniquely expressive of Grange thought and sentiment throughout the entire state. In 1874, one year after the formation of the Oregon State Grange, the number of granges in the state increased rapidly so that by 1875, Oregon boasted 175 subordinate granges spread throughout 22 counties. After a brief decline in the 1880s, statewide grange membership rose and fell according to changes in population, agriculture, and the economy. Aa result, from that time through the first half of the twentieth century, new subordinate granges were chartered in the state while older chapters fell dormant. The influence of the Grange in Oregon can be seen in its successful petitions to regulate transportation in the state, first with legislation passed regarding the use of locks on the Willamette River in 1877 and again with enacted legislation pertaining to railroad companies in 1887. Grangers throughout the state supported local agricultural organizations, like the Sheep Breeding Association, as well as the public school system and other educational groups. Regardless of the granger population throughout the state, Oregon granges have always been very active in lobbying their local and state legislatures. Their petitions focused on issues important to agriculture, education, and social welfare. Since its inception, the Oregon State Grange has petitioned state and national legislatures on issues as diverse as women's suffrage, the direct election of senators, and rural free delivery. The State Grange was also active in establishing the Oregon Agricultural College in Corvallis, an institution that has grown into today's Oregon State University and its associated Extension Services throughout the state. THE GRANGE MOVEMENT IN LANE COUNTY AND EUGENE Historically, Lane County's economy was largely based on agriculture. The Willamette Valley, in particular, was known as one of the nation's most productive farming regions. Crops – such as wheat, vegetables, and hops – were hearty and plentiful because of the moderate climate and fertile alluvial soil that farmers in the valley relied upon. Initially, the valley's early pioneer settlers were purely subsistence farmers, but by the 1860s area farmers also began marketing their produce in surrounding communities. The arrival of railroad transportation in the 1870s and 1880s introduced Lane County farmers to expanded markets and prompted an increase in production; however, the railroad's high freight costs and fluctuating prices led Lane County farmers to begin forming local grange organizations in an effort to protect themselves from railroad companies whose high prices threatened to reduce or even eliminate the profit farmers received from marketing their produce. By 1875 Lane County boasted seventeen subordinate granges, second only to Linn County's twenty-six. The first grange established in the county was Springfield Grange (no longer active), chartered in 1873 in Springfield, Oregon. Less than two years later, Eugene City Grange (no longer active), the first in Eugene, was also established. By the time Willakenzie Grange was chartered in 1913, Lane County had nearly 3,000 individual, owner-operated farms – more than ever before in the county's history. This increase in private agricultural enterprise in the early-twentieth century brought about an increase in county-wide grange formation and membership; as a result, the construction of Willakenzie Grange Hall came at the height of grange activity in the area. From the beginning, subordinate granges like Willakenzie have admitted men, women, and youth over the age of fourteen as full members on equal terms. Each member votes to elect local grange officers and to decide the grange's role in community matters. Subordinate granges promote activities designed to develop leadership, improve life in the community, and expand civic, professional, and educational opportunities for all members of the community, as well as providing emergency relief for community members affected by illness, fire, or natural disaster. WILLAKENZIE GRANGE: Since the first Euro-American settlement in 1847, the fertile valley between the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers was a popular destination for a steady stream of settlers. The first public school in the area, the Bogart School House, was constructed in 1854 for local farmers' children, and by 1860, most of the remaining land in the valley had been claimed by farmers growing wheat, hops, walnuts, and flax. By the turn of the century, the region was known to be an important agricultural center for the nearby city of Eugene. In May of 1913, Will Ayres and Frank Harlow – both area farmers and sons of early settlers – decided that a local grange would benefit the growing agricultural community in the Willamette-McKenzie river valley. Ayres and Harlow invited area families to attend a meeting at the nearby Bogart School House where a grange was organized consisting of sixty-four initial members. These first members chose the name "Willakenzie," after the two rivers that flowed through the area. The grange's first order of business was to secure a meeting place of its own. In September, a .86 acre lot adjacent to the Bogart School House was purchased from Mrs. Catherine M. Bogart for $250. Three grange members, George Smith, Ira Calef, and C.A. Rice, were appointed to draw up plans for the new meeting hall. Their plans called for a simple, two-story rectangular building measuring 32' x 64'. At the same time, a Building Committee, consisting of Will Ayres, Frank Harlow, and C.A. Rice, was organized to begin construction as soon as possible. By November of 1913, less than six months after the grange was first called to order, Willakenzie Grange housed its first meeting. Shortly after the hall's construction, a horse shed and two outhouses were built on the lot, none of which are extant today (although historic photographs indicate that the horse shed was located in back of the building on the north end of the lot). In 1935, grangers planted big-leaf maple trees along the north and west sides of the lot, most of which are still alive today. Twenty-four of the charter grange members who were instrumental in the construction and early maintenance of Willakenzie Grange Hall are buried at the Gillespie Butte Cemetery in Eugene. As an organization, Willakenzie Grange has always been known for its local civic and educational efforts, and its participation in regional events like the annual Lane County Fair – an event that had been operating since 1884 in conjunction with the Lane County Agricultural Society. Through resolution and parliamentary procedure, members have voiced concerns and ideas for the development and maintenance of many nearby roads, bridges, parks, schools, and businesses. As a result, much of the area has adopted the Willakenzie name, and several members have gone on to do well in public service - including Oregon State Senator, Wayne Morse. Willakenzie Grange is also celebrated throughout the area as the originator of the Producers' Public Market in Eugene. Established in 1915, the Producers' Public Market (known today as the Lane County Farmers' Market) has since become a Eugene tradition and a key piece of the city's cultural heritage. Since its earliest days, Willakenzie grangers have offered their hall as a meeting place for neighborhood associations, Boy and Girl Scout troops, the local Red Cross, and other community groups in an effort to realize the Grange's mission of social well-being and to foster a spirit of charity and cooperation within the community. Since its inception, Willakenzie Grange has hosted countless poetry recitals, choir concerts, food drives, educational lectures, and music, art, and craft competitions, and has also served as a location for food distribution and for area voters to cast their ballots in local, state, and federal elect Until it was deconstructed, the outdoor fireplace provided hot food to accompany many of these events. Current grange members plan to reconstruct the fireplace so that it can again serve as the WWII memorial and community cookout center for which it was originally intended. While official Grange meetings are open to members only, the many social activities and events held at Willakenzie Grange Hall have always been open to the general public. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: The parameters of this analysis consist of previously surveyed and inventoried historic grange buildings in Lane County, Oregon. Currently, Lowell Grange Hall in Lowell, Oregon is the only grange hall in Lane County that is individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Unlike Willakenzie, however, Lowell Grange Hall was originally built as a school in 1914 and was not used as a grange hall until 1940. Willakenzie Grange Hall, on the other hand, is a purpose-built grange hall that was built by local grangers to carry out the unique agricultural and civic missions of the National Grange organization. West Point Grange Hall in Coburg, Oregon is part of the Coburg Historic District and is similar to Willakenzie in its size and its Craftsman-vernacular style; West Point Grange Hall, however, was not constructed until 1939, a full twenty-six years after Willakenzie area grangers built and began meeting in their own hall. In addition, as an organization, Eugene's Willakenzie Grange existed at least two years prior to the formation of West Point Grange in Coburg. In addition to Lowell and West Point, the only other grange hall in Lane County that is on record with the Oregon SHPO is Lorane Grange Hall in Lorane, Oregon, built c. 1910. Constructed in a vernacular style, the building contains one notably newer addition, but otherwise possesses a high degree of integrity. Like Lowell, however, Lorane Grange Hall was originally used as a schoolhouse before it was adopted by the local Lorane Grange. While at least twenty-five grange halls (historic and not) exist in Lane County today, no others have been identified by the Eugene City Planning Office, the Lane County Planning Office, or the State Historic Preservation Office. Today, Willakenzie Grange Hall is one of two remaining grange halls incorporated within the city of Eugene proper (the other is Four Oaks Grange), and is the closest grange hall to the city center. As such, the building stands as an important reminder of the area's oft-forgotten agricultural heritage. CONCLUSION: Willakenzie Grange Hall is locally significant under National Register Criterion A for its association with the Grange Movement in Lane County. The building is significant in the area of Social History and Agriculture, as it represents the seat of an organization that once served as the social and recreational cornerstone of a rural community and has been the heart of area farmers' and agricultural workers' meetings for decades. The building continues to function as a grange hall today, ninety-five years after local grangers first constructed it. As of June 2008, the Grange boasted an official meeting number of 1,921.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

✔ Title Records	Census Records	Property Tax Records	Local Histories
Sanborn Maps	Biographical Sources	SHPO Files	✔ Interviews

Obituaries	Newspapers	✔ State Archives	✔ Historic Photographs
City Directories	Building Permits	State Library	

Local Library:		**University Library:**	
Historical Society:	Creswel Area Historical Society	**Other Respository:**	

Bibliography:

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