

Oregon Historic Site Record

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME			
address:	Hwy 20 Sisters, Linn County	historic name:	Santiam Pass Ski Lodge
assoc addresses:	Santiam Pass	current/other names:	Santiam Organization Building; Santiam Ski Lodge
location descr:	NFD 894 Rd, near Sno-Park; Hwy 20, near NFD 2690 Rd.	block/lot/tax lot:	
		twshp/rng/sect/qtr sect:	13S 7.5 23
PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS			
resource type:	Building	height (stories):	2.5
elig evaluation:	eligible/significant	total elig resources:	4
prim constr date:	1940	NR Status:	Individually Listed
	second date:	date indiv listed:	10/18/2018
primary orig use:	Resort	orig use comments:	
second orig use:	Vacant/Not in use	prim style comments:	
primary style:	Rustic	sec style comments:	
secondary style:		siding comments:	
primary siding:	Vertical Board	architect:	William Parke; Wesley Gilmore;
secondary siding:	Stone:Other/Undefined	builder:	US Forest Service
plan type:			
comments/notes:			
GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS			
Survey/Grouping Included In:	Type of Grouping		Date Listed
Willamette National Forest	National Forest		
Farmstead/Cluster Name:	McKenzie Ranger District		
SHPO INFORMATION FOR THIS PROPERTY			
NR date listed:	10/18/2018	106 Project(s):	None
ILS survey date:		Special Assess Project(s):	None
RLS survey date:	03/10/2008	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 Santiam Pass Ski Lodge is found on the Santiam Pass on Highway 20 in the McKenzie River Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest, Linn County, Oregon. The lodge was constructed between July 1939 and February 1940 by partnership with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) as an element of the Three Fingered Jack Winter Sports Area development of the late 1930s. The Three Fingered Jack Winter Sports Area was created as a conceptual area that was considered, "the most logical area between Mount Hood and Crater Lake to develop joint use by Willamette Valley communities, and possibly Bend, Redmond, and other central Oregon communities". This development also included the original Hoodoo Ski Bowl, built in 1938, that remains open seasonally for the original purpose intended —winter sports recreational — under a special-use permit with the USDA Forest Service (USFS). The two and one-half story Santiam Lodge building was originally designed as a ski lodge that could accommodate approximately sixty guests. Built in the Rustic style, an architectural style known for embracing a philosophy that is cohesive with the surrounding environment by using materials derived from local sources with a simple or natural finish, the property is an excellent example of the Rustic style of architecture as expressed in the Pacific Northwest landscape and materials on public lands. Rooms within the lodge included dormitory quarters, a dining room, a lounge and specialized ski-related rooms, such as a waxing room and storage for skis and related gear. Local stone was quarried from nearby Hogg Rock to construct the ground floor and chimneys. The second floor and attic story were framed with local timber in a regional expression of Rustic style. Original outbuildings included a double bay garage and a pump house, however, only the garage remains as the pump house was consumed in the 2003 Booth and Bear Fire. Conversions to make all season use possible to the lodge occurred in 1958 under a special-use permit for the Presbytery of the Willamette Church group. The alterations —such as modifications to the stairways, exits, and the electrical system— were made primarily for safety and compliance with current public building codes. This permit was terminated in 1986 and has not been renewed. Although the lodge has been vacant, it receives periodic maintenance by the Forest Service and remains in good condition. The lodge retains a clear feeling and association with the New Deal era. It retains its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, and location. The Santiam Pass Ski Lodge historic property (Forest Service #06180700002) consists of two contributing buildings, two contributing sites, one non-contributing structure, and one non-contributing site. The two contributing buildings are the ski lodge (1939) and the garage (1940). The two contributing sites are a short trail west of the ski lodge that connects the property to the more extensive local trail network and an original road that historically provided access to the lodge. The non-contributing structure is the series of concrete foundations that were once a flight of steps between the garage and lodge. There is also a non-contributing graded and cleared area of an unknown function west of the lodge (see Figure 2).</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 Santiam Pass Ski Lodge is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C. The period of significance extends from 1939, with the construction of the main lodge and garage, to 1958, the last year that the Santiam Lodge was used in the capacity of a ski lodge for public recreation purposes. The Santiam Pass Ski Lodge is locally significant under Criterion A for its association with outdoor recreation and under Criterion C in the area of architecture. Under Criterion A, the lodge property is representative of an important period of development that shaped public lands to facilitate access and usage for outdoor recreation for the general public. This property is the result of collaborative efforts by the USDA Forest Service with Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor. The Santiam Lodge was instrumental in creating a place for citizens to sleep and get meals in the mountains at a reasonable cost while they participated in winter sports activities around the area. It was operated in the capacity of winter ski lodge from 1939 until 1958. Under Criterion C, the historic property embodies elements of a regional manifestation of late Rustic style architecture. This property is one of the few remaining extant Rustic ski lodge facilities built by the USDA Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest during the intensive building program between 1939 and 1941. The Santiam Pass Ski Lodge represents Forest Service objectives for outdoor recreation envisioned in the 1930s — a response to the demand from the public for outdoor recreation opportunities in general, and winter sports areas in particular. The Santiam Pass Ski Lodge, embedded within the larger cultural landscape of the Three Fingered Jack Recreation Area, is significant as a planned and built manifestation of the intentions to facilitate public access to outdoor recreation in the Central Cascades of Oregon. Implementation of this development was made possible by the involvement of labor provided by the CCC. As part of the rural recreation trend of the 1930s, the Santiam Pass Ski Lodge is also a distinctive example of Rustic design philosophy and architecture, blending with the landscape by using roughly finished local materials as built in the Cascade Mountains. It retains integrity of location and setting. It also retains integrity of materials, design, and workmanship, as the original foundation, siding, roofing, as well as interior features, are all in relatively good condition or have been repaired and replaced in-kind.</p>			

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:	Oregon State, U of O, U of California
Historical Society:	Other Repository:	

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