

CRATER LAKE

PNRO INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, Room 1920
2001 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98121

OCT 17 1988

1. SITE I.D. NO		5. ORIGINAL USE		7. CLASSIFICATION		9. RATING	
2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE		Visitor Center View Point				10. DATE	
3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)		6. PRESENT USE				1931	
Rim Village Crater Lake National Park		Same		8. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING		11. REGION	
4. CITY/VICINITY COUNTY STATE		Crater Lake National Park, Klamath, Oregon		SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER		QUAD NAME 10	

12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS
U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Seattle, Washington

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

An irregularly shaped massive masonry and concrete structure built to conform to the topography of its site, Victory Rock, a cliff 50 feet below Crater Lake rim. Access is via a moderately steep asphalt and stone path and stairs with a stone parapet. Visitor entrance is via an elliptically shaped "observation room" on the north side of the structure, with the "museum," an L-shaped room, on the same level on the south of the observation room which is built into the cliff. Stone and concrete stairs on the southeast corner of the museum lead down to a partial basement below it, measuring 13' x 11'-6". The original asphalt-treated flat roof was rebuilt with heavy asphalt and lead flashing to stop leaking in 1931; in 1961 the massive exposed log room beams were replaced with steel beams and girders, supported by steel columns in the observation room, with steel decking and a built-up roof above. Most exterior walls and the wall between the observation room and museum are load-bearing native stone; the basement and first floors are concrete slabs, and the basement walls are concrete and frame construction. The south end of the building melds into the cliff; the north elevation faces the lake and has a 30" tall stone parapet below a 5'-6" tall unglazed opening offering an unobstructed view of the lake from the observation room. The entry on the west to the observation room is a full-height stone wall with double, glazed tongue and groove doors replacing earlier double french doors. The east elevation has a plate glass window in the observation room, and a door leading from the museum to the exterior stairs, shielded from view by a massive stone wall. Doors on the south wall of the observation room, which lead to the museum, have been altered.

14. CONDITION EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR DETERIORATED RUINS

15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT) YES NO UNKNOWN

16. SIGNIFICANCE

From the time of its completion in 1931, the building has offered "...one of the most spectacular views of the lake that can be found within the park and is used by practically all visitors to the park." Its construction was authorized by Congress "in memory of the late Oregon Congressman Nicholas J. Sinnott in honor of his service to the state and to Crater Lake National Park." It was the first structure in the park to reflect Merrel Sager's use of massive stone masonry, which later became part of the rustic architecture style dominating the headquarters area of Crater Lake National Park. The use of large stones required the development of new building techniques later used elsewhere in the park. It would be a contributing structure in a nomination of the park's rustic architecture to the National Register of Historic Places.

17. PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION



SOUTH ELEV.



SOUTH ELEV.



EAST ELEV.



WEST ELEV.



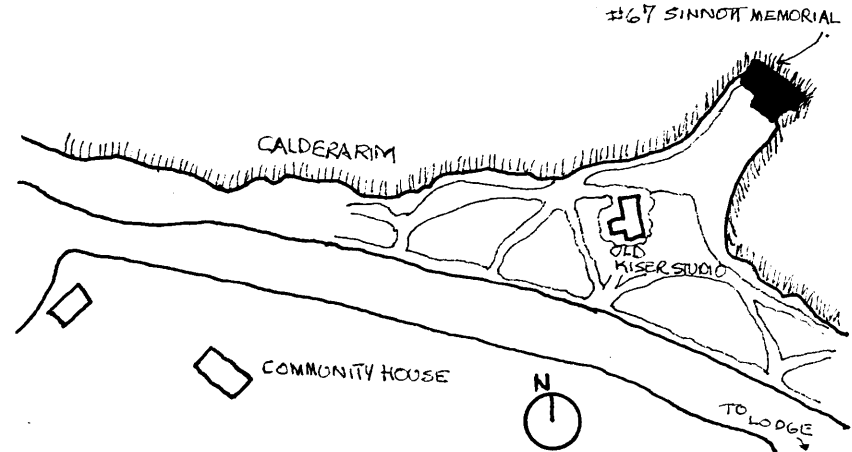
EAST ELEV.



MEMORIAL PATH



NORTH ENTRY FROM PORCH



18. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT?

YES NO NAME

19. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED
 NO UNKNOWN

20. EXISTING SURVEYS

NR NHL HABS HAER-1 HAER NPS STATE
 COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

21. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Building Maintenance File, Crater Lake NP: Sinnott Memorial Building #67.
 Drawings: CL-311, 2 sheets; CL-3118-D, 4 sheets; Denver SC; microfilm at NPS-PNRO, Seattle.
 Historic Photo File at Crater Lake NP: Neg. #4549; Neg. #4546, CRLA Files.
 Green, Linda. Historic Resource Study: Crater Lake National Park. NPS, Denver Service Center: 1984.
 NPS, Branch of Plans and Design, Western Division. Landscape Architects Field Reports (Sager, Lange: 1930-1936).
 Unpublished ms. in Federal Archives and Records Center (RG 79), San Bruno, CA.
 NPS, Branch of Engineering, Omaha, Nebraska. Final Construction Report on Sinnott Memorial Building Completion, Project FP-28-A (W.E. Robertson, 4/1/1938). Unpublished ms. on file at Building Maintenance Division, Crater Lake NP, OR.
 Tweed, William, et. al. National Park Service: Rustic Architecture, 1916-1942. Unpublished ms. on file at NPS-PNRO, Seattle, WA.

22. INVENTORIED BY

Patricia C. Frigero

AFFILIATION

Historian, National Park Service

DATE

7/27/84

Continuation page: Sinnott Memorial Building #67 (LCS# 00241)

Item #13 (continued):

In 1961 the interior was altered with the addition of a stained V-groove 1 x 6 ceiling, flagstone pavers, indirect lighting, and removal of exposed logs and supporting log posts. Mortar on exterior is cracked and some is missing; observation field glasses installed on parapet have been removed. The structure was designed by the Landscape Division of the National Park Service, and construction was supervised by E. E. Etherton, who had a Public Works Administration appointment.