

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

FEB 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hartstene Island Community Hall  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number North Island Drive and Hartstene Island Drive  not for publication  
city, town Hartstene Island  vicinity  
state Washington code WA county Mason code 045 zip code 98584

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>        </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

*Carol E. Shaw* 2/7/89  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Washington State Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

*Alan Byar* 3/16/89  
National Register Date of Action

*[Signature]*           
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

(48)

00/5

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
SOCIAL: meeting hall

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
SOCIAL: meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)  
  
Othe: vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)  
  
foundation stone  
walls wood: weatherboard  
  
roof metal  
other

5/80

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Hartstene Island Community Hall is a large one-story meeting hall located at the intersection of two main roads at the northern end of the island. Since its construction in 1914 it has been in continuous use as a gathering place for the island's social, recreational and political activities and is the focal point of all community life. Built by volunteer labor with donated materials, the building embodies the frontier spirit that prevailed on the island in the early decades of the twentieth century. A 1916 shed-roofed addition to the main hall provided kitchen and dining space, and another early addition at the rear provided for a stage and backstage facilities. Except for the modernization of plumbing and mechanical systems and upgrading of the kitchen, the community hall retains its original appearance and continues its historical associations with the island's community groups.

The original community hall has a rectangular plan, approximately 55 feet by 30 feet, including an open porch on the east facade. The original foundation, still visible on the eastern half, consists of uncut stone footings supporting sections of logs acting as posts. In 1987 a poured concrete foundation was incorporated at the western end where the land slopes downward to allow a partial basement area above grade. The wood-frame building is sheathed in horizontal drop siding, with vertical board-and-batten skirting. Window and door surrounds are plain milled boards with no moulding. Cornerboards, fascia, knee braces at the gable ends and porch railings are all of the same simple millwork. The hip roof of the porch is supported by square posts with chamfered edges, although two of the original have been replaced with peeled poles. The porch roof and the main gable roof were originally covered by wood shingles, which remain under modern corrugated metal roofing.

In 1916 an addition was made to the south side, approximately 15 feet wide and extending the entire length of the building. This addition provided dining space and a kitchen area. The interior wall surfaces are now covered with gypsum board, the kitchen facilities have been modernized, and bathrooms have been added, but the simple window frames and rectangular four-light wood sash are original. Another early shed roofed addition at the north provided space for a shallow elevated stage and a small backstage area that now includes modern electrical equipment.

The interior of the hall itself is covered with narrow tongue-and-groove wood sheathing as is the ceiling. The flooring is hardwood maple, which early on replaced the original fir, which still can be seen on the narrow slightly raised platforms around the three edges of the room. The dimensions of the hall, approximately 47 feet by 30 feet, include a ceiling height of approximately 16 feet, necessitated by early recreational use of the space for basketball and volleyball games. When electricity was brought to the island in the 1940s, six ceiling fixtures were added. These early fixtures were replaced by hanging fluorescent lights.

See continuation sheet

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The setting of the community hall remains quite rural in character. The building is easily visible from both roads and has a large open graveled area to the south that is used for parking, but the vicinity remains wooded and the area is still sparsely inhabited.

50

518

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Social History

Period of Significance  
1914-1939

Significant Dates  
N/A

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Bill, John, and Oscar Sund of Grapeview.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Hartstene Island Community Hall is historically significant for its long association with the development of civic life on the island in the 20th century. Since its construction in 1914, the hall has been the single most important structure in community affairs, serving as the home of the local grange, women's club, community club, and the venue of all of the island's important public gatherings and social events. The simple frame structure, well-preserved and carefully maintained, continues to serve Hartstene Island in the same capacity today.

Historical background and significance:

Located in the south Puget Sound, with Case Inlet on the east and Pickering Passage and Peale Passage on the west, Hartstene Island is comprised of 12,000 acres, sparsely settled and accessible to the Mason County mainland only by ferry until the late 1960s. Although the island was explored by the Wilkes expedition in 1841 (and named for crew member Henry J. Harstein), economic activity on the heavily forested island remained limited through the early 20th century to logging and isolated subsistence farms. Because of the small and scattered population, and its remote location, the island had no central village or community meeting place through the first decade of the new century.

To address that problem, the Hartstene Island Community Club was established in 1914, with the intention of erecting a community hall on one-half acre of land near the northern tip of the island, donated by Andrew Johnson. From the beginning, the project was a community effort. Island resident August Carlson donated trees for the lumber; John Edgert, Arthur Wingert, and Alan McKay used two teams of horses to haul the logs from the woods to the beach, where they were rafted and towed by the Marie and the Levina to a sawmill at Taylor Bay on the mainland; and the finished lumber was towed back to the island in a scow by the Marie, and hauled from the beach to the building site by volunteers with horses and wagons.

Although Grapeview carpenters were hired to supervise construction, they were assisted by islanders including Lee Carlson, Ed Wilson, John Wilson, Arlo Wingert, Arthur Wingert, and Paul Hitchcock. Work parties were held during construction, with pot-luck dinners provided by the island womenfolk. In 1916, a lean-to shed addition was constructed to accommodate a large dining hall and kitchen. Construction of the dining hall was supervised by Bill Sayers, with assistance from Tony Goetsch, Wilson, Carlson, and others, and a large stove

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Hitchcock, Beulah, and Helen Wingert, The Island Remembers (Hartstene Island Women's Club, 1979).

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property less than one

Quadrangle Name: Mason Lake      Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

**UTM References**

A 

1	0
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5	0	8	6	2	0
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5	2	3	5	6	6	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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D 

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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Tract 3, Lot 1, Section 26, T21N, R2W; Tract 3, NW, SW Section 25, T21N, R2W.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the community hall.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John Lea and Shirley Courtois, with significance statement by Leonard Garfield  
organization Hartstene Island Community Hall date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number East 467 Chesapeake telephone (206) 426-1533  
city or town Shelton state Washington zip code 98584

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was donated by Mark Reed of the Simpson Logging Company in Shelton. At about the same time, a stage was added to the rear of the main hall to accommodate performances.

With construction complete, the hall quickly became a true community center. From its inception, the hall was the home of the young community club. The hall was also the meeting site of the Hartstene Island Grange #568, established the year the hall opened, and an important organization in the lives of the island's farm families. Two years later (with the kitchen complete) the Hartstene Women's Club was founded at the center. The hall clearly reflects the growing role of civic associations in the life of American communities in the early 20th century.

Initially, the hall was without electricity or plumbing, and island residents brought wood and buckets of water from their homes. But that did not inhibit important community-wide events. Dances and festivals attracted participants from as far away as Agate, Stadium, and Vaughn who arrived by boat or ferry. The community hall also served as the polling place for every election; the site of the annual Harvest Home Festival, sponsored by the Grange; the playing court for the island basketball and volleyball teams; and the performance hall for local theatrical productions (later under the auspices of the Hartstene Island Theater Club).

Since 1916, the hall has undergone very few changes. The building was wired for electricity in the 1940s, repairs to the roof were made in the 1970s, and a new basement was added in 1984. In every instance, the expenses and labor were borne by community volunteers. The island, too, has gone through a few changes since the hall was constructed. A bridge was built in the late 1960s, connecting the island to the mainland, which led to an increase in the construction of summer homes. But even today the island retains its quiet character, and the Hartstene Island Community Hall continues to serve as the well preserved focal point for civic life.

(52)

col 5



for original map -  
 See publication  
 photos file  
 for bull. 16A.

Hartstene Island  
 Community Club  
 Hartstene Is., Mason  
 Co., WA  
 UTM Reference:  
 10/508620/5235660

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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Harstine Island Community Hall

89000212

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVED

*Edson A. Beall*

4-19-96

Additional Documentation Accepted





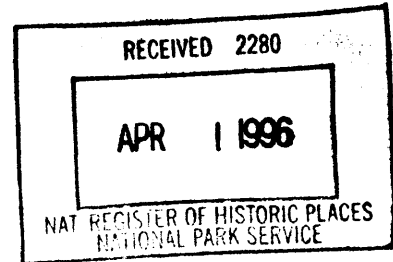
STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

111 21st Avenue S.W. • P.O. Box 48343 • Olympia, Washington 98504-8343 • (206) 753-4011 • SCAN 234-4011

March 12, 1996



Ms. Carol Shull  
National Register Branch  
Interagency Resources Division  
National Park Service  
800 Capitol Street Northwest  
Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ms. Shull:

I am writing to request that a change be made to the National Register listing of the community Hall in Mason County. Residents of the area have informed us that the correct spelling of the name is HARSTINE, not Hartstene, and that the state board of geographic names has recognized HARSTINE as the correct spelling.

We ask that the name in the listings be changed at your earliest convenience. Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at (360) 586-2901.

Sincerely,

Mary Thompson  
State Historic Preservation Officer

LLM: tjt