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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Schafer State Park

Other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1365 West Schafer Park Road not for publication

city or town Elma vicinity _____

State Washington code WA county Mason code 045 zip code 98541

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 3-24-10
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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:) _____

[Signature] 5-10-10
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
8		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
3		objects
11	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

None

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Landscape

Sub: State Park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture

Sub: Outdoor Recreation - park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: NPS Rustic Architecture

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stone

Wood

roof Wood: Shake

other Brick

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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 Engineering
- Record# _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Politics and Government,
 Entertainment/Recreation
 Architecture

Period of Significance

1924-1960

Significant Dates

1924

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

C.W.A. / W.P.A. (Builder)

Palmer, Clarence Clyde "Doc" (Builder)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Washington State Parks Headquarters

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 119.5 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

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Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter Reid, Trina Young, and Stet Palmer (with Alex McMurry)

organization The Schafer State Park Team

date January 2010

street & number C/O 7544 49th Avenue NW

telephone (360)789-9953

city or town Olympia

state WA

zip code 98502

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Alex McMurry)

street & number 1111 Israel Road SW

telephone (360) 902-0930

city or town Olympia

state WA

zip code 98504-2650

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SCHAFER STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Narrative Description

The Schafer State Park Historic District encompasses the entire 119.57 acre park, located on the East Fork of the Satsop River approximately 12 miles north of Elma in the southwestern corner of Mason County. The park features a large day-use area and campground, separated by West Schafer Park Road. The river is a primary focus of the park, with excellent fishing, wildlife viewing, and swimming.

The twelve resources in the Schafer State Park Historic District are varied in character, and all date to the historic period of significance, 1924-1960. Most of the resources are in good to excellent condition.

Park Character

Schafer State Park is in a largely forested setting of second-growth timber. The Satsop River divides the park, running generally east-west through the property. The park is divided into three main sections by the river and West Schafer Park Road, which runs north-south through the park. These include the portion of the park north of the river, the day use area south of the river on the east side of the road, and the campground and group camp areas on the west side of the road south of the river. The park administrative area, containing the Ranger's Residence, shop, and associated outbuildings is located south of the day-use area.

The portion of the park on the north side of the river is largely undeveloped, with the developed day-use, campground, and group camp areas on the south side of the river. The areas on the south side of the river are generally in river bottomlands, relatively flat with large open clearings defining the developed areas. Douglas-fir is the predominant species in the park, with its commonly found associate species such as other fir varieties, cedar, alder, and maple. The day-use area and campground are sited on a low bench adjacent to the river, which are both susceptible to seasonal flooding. The park has a total of 4,200 feet of river shoreline, which is the primary natural feature within the park. The day use area is the largest defined area of the park at approximately 5 acres, with the campground encompassing approximately 2 acres and the group camp located in a clearing to the south of the campground that is approximately 1 acre.

The park is not formally landscaped, but landscape features and small scale built features help define the areas and uses. Buildings and structures are generally sited at the edges of cleared areas or within the trees away from the river to leave the banks open for general recreation use. The river is well known for its fishing, with abundant salmon runs. A well established trail system links the various areas of the park.

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Resource Character

The Schafer State Park Historic District contains Depression-era and post-Depression buildings and structures developed both as part of the Civil Works Administration (CWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) work and the later work by park staff in a compatible manner using the same design ideals represented in the original construction. These elements reflect the craftsmanship, native materials and naturalistic principles of design that are the hallmarks of the National Park Service (NPS) Rustic Architecture style, but adapted to utilize local and native materials under the CWA and WPA federal relief programs. The main styles in the district are:

- NPS Rustic Architecture: characterized by the use of native materials in both the built and natural environment in order to subordinate the built environment to the natural setting.
- Vernacular: utility buildings using native materials (primarily rough-sawn wood) and simple massing forms.

The majority of the buildings in the Schafer State Park Historic District are constructed of logs and other native materials, especially local river rock and cedar shakes, in keeping with the Rustic Architecture style. Many of the buildings in the district have undergone some alteration over time. Some of the more common modifications included replacing roofs, but generally with the same materials originally used, and the addition of river rock components. See the description for alterations to individual resources.

Integrity and District Boundaries

Overall, the Schafer State Park Historic District maintains a strong overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Most of the resources within the district maintain their historic integrity.

“Historic, Contributing” resources were constructed during the district’s period of significance (1924-1960), relate to the documented historic significance of the district, and have integrity. Several of the contributing resources have been modified over time, most within the historic period, but maintain their contributing status since these changes did not severely change their historic character and integrity.

- Total number of Historic, Contributing resources in the district = 11

“Historic, Non-Contributing” resources were present during the district’s period of significance (1924-1960), but do not relate to the documented significance of the district, or lack integrity. All of the

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Historic Non-Contributing features of the district do not contribute due to alterations that have resulted in a significant loss of integrity.

- Total number of Historic, Non-Contributing resources in the district = 1

The day-use area has the longest history of recreational use within the park through its continual use as a community gathering area. Prior to the period of significance, the local community and the Schafer Brothers Logging Company placed improvements on the property for social events, including a large dance floor, parking areas, and platforms adjacent to the river. These improvements, and their frequent use by large groups of people from community organizations or the Schafer Brothers Company, reflect the use of the park as a primary place for substantial gatherings and established the park as the primary local outdoor recreation area.

The geography, natural resources, climate and accessibility to this landscape have changed little. The primary recreational use area of the park is located as it was from its earliest days of development and exhibits *integrity of location*. The informal design of the park has not changed since the time of its early use, with the exception of minor alterations to the local topography through flood events and improvements to the general trail system. The park has good *integrity of design and setting*.

A hallmark of the NPS Rustic architectural style is the use of native materials in both the built and natural environment in order to subordinate built environment and designed landscape to the natural setting. The Schafer State Park Historic District exhibits a high degree of *integrity of materials and workmanship*, throughout the original development and subsequent modifications within the period of significance. The overall park design and its pattern of use, as well as the character of the WPA-era buildings and the later additions by park staff, contribute to the *integrity of feeling*. The Schafer State Park Historic District distinctly reflects *integrity of association* by its continued use and occupation as a place to swim, picnic, and camp, as well as for its relationship to the New Deal Depression work relief programs, including the Works Progress Administration and the Civil Works Administration.

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Inventory of Schafer State Park Historic District Resources

Dates given in the following inventory are based Schafer State Park documents, interviews with knowledgeable personnel, and other historical documents.

Ranger's Residence [building]

Built: 1936

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: WPA /

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 1

Description: The Ranger's Residence, located to the south of the day-use area and separating this area from the maintenance area, generally follows the design principles of the NPS Rustic Style. However, like many buildings within this park, the building uses washed river rock as a primary construction material: a material specifically discouraged by the National Park Service in Albert Good's Park Structures and Facilities (1935) due to a sense of instability. The building originally featured an attached garage at the southwest corner; this has been enclosed and the interior reconfigured to provide additional living space. Below the eave line the residence uses river rock as a siding material. The individual stones vary in dimension with larger stones intermixed in the general wall field and consistently sized stones used at the building corners and window sills. The window heads are supported by log beams. The side gable roof is clad with wood shakes. A porch extends to the north of the house at the primary façade, supported by a pair of log columns resting on a stone base. The chimney matches the other stonework on the house, which is attributed to local resident Ike Ford. Windows are a combination of vertically divided six-light casements and one-over-one double hung sash at the first floor level and sliding aluminum sash at the second floor. This building is rare in a State Parks context due to its construction material and the presence of an attached garage. Despite the alterations listed below, it retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the district as the essential form and historic character of the building remains intact.

Alterations: The attached garage was converted to living space about 1965, and the single bay door was infilled with river rock to match the other cladding on the residence. In addition, the roof system was completely rebuilt in 1970 when the deteriorated log rafters were removed and replaced with dimensional lumber. During this project, the original shake siding in the gable ends was also replaced with the current beveled cedar siding and the upper floor windows were replaced and slightly enlarged. Other changes, dating to 1951 or 1952 by carpenter Earl Landis, include the addition of knotty pine finishes in the house and the reconfiguration of the west window in the living room.

Campground Comfort Station [building]

Built: 1934

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: CWA

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 2

Description: Nearly identical to the comfort station in the day-use area, this building sits at the southern edge of the campground. Typical of the initial park development under federal relief programs, the building uses river rock as the primary siding type. The building features separate entries for men and women at each end, with a centrally located pipe chase and storage area between the two sides. The building is covered by a steep side gable roof, with small extensions of the main gable over the entries at the ends. The pipe chase door is announced by a small gable at the center of the north façade. A hewn log top plate encircles the entire building to serve as a header for the windows and doors. Above this, the gable ends are clad with wood shakes, as is the roof. The roof system is

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comprised of peeled log rafters supporting the skip sheathing beneath the roof. Doors appear to be original plank doors with intact original hardware. The windows are fixed sash with four light sashes at the east and west ends flanking six light sashes on either side of the central pipe chase windows. Like the other buildings in the park, the river rock façade is well executed with consistent window sill stones and larger stones placed at the building corners. **Alterations:** The building survives nearly intact. The only alterations are the removal of the two former windows in the pipe chase, one of which has been infilled to serve as a mounting point for the upgraded circuit breaker panel. In the winter of 2007-2008, a tree fell on the eastern end of the building (men's entrance), requiring the replacement of a portion of the roof and select log rafters. These repairs were made in-kind.

Day-Use Area Comfort Station [building]

Built: 1934

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: CWA

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 3

Description: Nearly identical to the comfort station in the campground, this building sits just south of a short bridge at the southern edge of the day-use area. Typical of the initial park development under federal relief programs, the building uses river rock as the primary siding type. The building features separate entries for men and women at each end, with a centrally located pipe chase and storage area between the two sides. The building is covered by a steep side gable roof, with small extensions of the main gable over the entries at the ends. The pipe chase door is announced by a small gable at the center of the north façade. A hewn log top plate encircles the entire building to serve as a header for the windows and doors. Above this, the gable ends are clad with wood shakes, as is the roof. The roof system is comprised of peeled log rafters supporting the skip sheathing beneath the roof. Doors appear to be original plank doors with intact original hardware. The windows are fixed sash with four light sashes at the east and west ends flanking six light sashes on either side of the central vertical four light pipe chase windows. Like the other buildings in the park, the river rock façade is well executed with consistent window sill stones and larger stones placed at the building corners.

Alterations: The building survives nearly intact. In the winter of 2007-2008, a tree fell through the center of the building, requiring the reconstruction of a portion of the main gable and the small gable over the pipe chase entry. These repairs were made in-kind. A portion of the pipe chase now houses an ADA accessible restroom, but using the original wall and door layout.

Day-Use Small Kitchen [building]

Built: c. 1934

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: WPA

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 4

Description: This open kitchen is located on the south side of the day-use area. It is a relatively simple form, approximately 23 feet square, with four primary columns supporting the pyramidal roof. The northern half of the building has no enclosing walls, only the diagonal supports at the corner posts. The southern half of the building was enclosed with a low stone wall in the early 1950s – likely in 1951 or 1952. These walls, on the east and west façades, are terminated by additional log columns. The original diagonal bracing was also cut and incorporated into the stone wall design. A sink is centrally located on the southern side, framed below by a decorative rock arch and flanked by large plank countertops. The sink may have been an original feature, but the design was altered within the historic period. The dimensional lumber roof system is penetrated at its peak by a brick chimney. The chimney

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serves a brick stove with metal cook top. This kitchen shelter has a concrete slab floor. Although the building has been altered, the materials and composition blend with the design idiom of the park.

Alterations: The kitchen has been modified (during the historic period) but retains much of its original integrity of proportions and layout. The enclosure of the southern portion by a river rock stone wall and the integrated sink was done in the early 1950s, but does not detract from the overall integrity of the building.

Day-Use Large Kitchen [building]

Built: 1953

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: Norbert Rothgery and Henry Lee / Doc Palmer

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 5

Description: The large kitchen shelter is located at the eastern end of the day-use area, and is one of the largest structures in the park measuring 34' x 56'. It is largely an open-sided building, with the exception of the west end. The building is covered by an east-west gable roof supported by a series of log columns at the perimeter. These logs are topped by a plate that is tied into the simple kingpost truss design. Because of the large span and the relatively small truss members, the kingposts are hollowed out to receive an iron rod that runs from the ridge to the lower chord to provide additional strength. To accommodate snow loads, short posts are propped under the kingposts to increase the capacity of the roof. The truss system supports a series of peeled pole purlins that serve as nailers for the wood shake roof. The log columns, donated by neighbor Walter Shaw, rest on short concrete piers that are placed on top of the concrete slab floor. The western end of the building is enclosed using vertical boards above a river rock stone base. At the interior, a large fireplace is centrally located at the west end. Also constructed of local rock, it is flanked by low counters and is a prominent feature of the west façade and the dominant feature of the building interior. The fireplace features an arched opening with a plank mantle mounted above. The stone work in this building was done by a local resident, Mr. Hiles, who was a mason originally from England. Hiles specialized in building fireplaces, and performed this work for over 60 years in the area. The building floor is a monolithic concrete slab without expansion joints, which would have interfered with the building's use as a dance floor. Trenches serving as small footings were dug and filled with scrap iron to reinforce the concrete. The building is sized to accommodate four squares of dancers with room for spectators. This building is representative of the second major period of development within the park, and continues the aesthetic of the original designs.

Alterations: Modifications to this building are few. The building has had an in-kind roofing replacement at some point during its life, and a few of the log columns were replaced by a local neighbor as an Eagle Scout project. These replacements are only identifiable on close inspection. Otherwise, the building survives intact as it was originally constructed.

Campground Kitchen Shelter / Interpretive Center [building]

Built: c. 1934

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: WPA

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 6

Description: The Campground Kitchen Shelter was originally an open structure similar to the smaller kitchen in the day-use area. In the early 1950s (1951 or 1952), stone work was added to enclose the western side of the building similar to the southern side of the day-use area kitchen. In 1958, walls were constructed to enclose the majority of this once open shelter to provide for interior space to serve as a registration booth and park store which has since become a small interpretive center. The building sits under a pyramidal roof with a central chimney. On the east

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side, the two log corner columns are still present and the exterior wall is recessed to form a covered porch area. The western two-thirds of the building have been enclosed using standard frame construction with board and batten siding. These frame walls are placed on top of the low stone walls constructed in the early 1950s. The windows are a mixture of fixed sash, and were reclaimed from a surplus military installation. The cook stove was removed during its conversion to interior space, but the chimney remains.

Alterations: This building was altered during the historic period to provide for the changing needs of the park. Low stone walls, and possibly the sink on the south side, were added in the early-1950s by Park Superintendent C.C. "Doc" Palmer. Then, in 1958, a majority of the floor space was enclosed to provide additional interior space in the campground area when park headquarters decided registration in parks would be from a central area instead of the superintendent going to each camp site to register visitors and collect fees. The siding was salvaged from the nearby fish weir in the Satsop River adjacent to the park. The alteration of the building occurred within the period of significance, and reflects the adaptation of the building to suit the needs of managing the park. The alterations are consistent with the character of the surrounding district in terms of materials, scale, and workmanship, and allow the building to contribute to the larger district.

Drinking Fountain [object]

Built: c. 1936

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect:

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 7

Description: The drinking fountain is located near the west end of the day-use area, north of the parking lot. It is of a type commonly found in Civilian Conservation Corps developed parks, and is a monolithic sandstone fountain with a bowl carved in the top. Typical of the type, but unusual in material, this fountain features a step that is constructed of river rock with a poured concrete cap or step. It is a good example of the Rustic ideal, using a natural material for a utilitarian purpose.

Alterations: The plumbing may have been replaced at some point in the life of the fountain, but it uses the original holes drilled in the sandstone block for this purpose. The step is also an added feature, but may have been constructed when the fountain was originally placed at this location or it could have been added when other stone features were constructed in the park by Doc Palmer in the early-1950s. Regardless of the date of the step addition, the essential form of the fountain is intact and it retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the larger district.

Park Shop [building]

Built: 1954

Style: Vernacular

Builder/Architect: Doc Palmer and Norbert Rothgery

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 8

Description: The Park Shop is located within the service area of the park, just south of the main Ranger's Residence. It is a long 1 ½ story building covered by a side gable roof, and measures approximately 40' x 85'. The east façade is comprised of a series of bay doors at the south end (4 total), an office section near the center, and a fifth bay door at the north end of the façade. The doors are outswinging hinged doors of plank construction. The building is clad with board and batten siding, and the roof is clad with standing seam metal. The windows were reclaimed from a surplus military buildings near Ocean Beach, and are either six light casements or twelve light sliding sash. The second floor of the building has a storage loft at the southern end, and an apartment at the north

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end that was occupied by Norbert Rothgery during the period he worked in the park (1954-1959). It was then occupied by Superintendent Joe Anderson, his wife, and his two sons for about a year in 1960.

Alterations: The roof material has changed from the original wood shake. Windows, siding, bay doors, and interior finishes remain largely intact. The only major alteration is the removal of one bay door where the park office is currently located. This portion of the building has a modern exterior replacement door and an aluminum sliding sash window, and the siding infill matches the remainder of the building. Despite these changes, the building's exterior and interior retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the surrounding district.

Schafer Monument [object]

Built: 1924

Style: Other (vernacular)

Builder/Architect:

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 9

Description: The Schafer Monument commemorates the dedication of the park and its donation by the Schafer family. It is a low obelisk constructed of concrete. The wide square base supports the 6 foot high monument, which contains a steel plaque on the west side stating "Honoring the Memory / of / John D. & Anna Schafer / Pioneers of 1870 / This Park is Dedicated / By Their Sons / Peter, Hubert & Albert / in 1924". The plaque is surrounded by a red brick trim.

Alterations: The Schafer Monument has been painted over the years, but retains its essential form and is largely unaltered from its original construction.

Entry Pylons [objects]

Built: 1951

Style: NPS Rustic

Builder/Architect: C.C. "Doc" Palmer and daughter Barbara Palmer

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 10

Description: The entry pylons flank the one-way roads into and out of the day-use area on the east side of the road, and flank the road leading to the campground on the west side of the road. Constructed of river rock, they rest on a concrete base with a flat top of poured concrete. On the west side of the road, one of the pylons was relocated to accommodate wider and longer vehicles. The pylons are all approximately the same size, being roughly 3 1/2 feet square and 4 feet high. There are a total of six pylons, two on the west side of the road and four on the east.

Alterations: Other than the minor relocation of one pylon on the west side of the road, these features remain unaltered. The pylons originally flanked cattle guards that were necessary until the open range laws were repealed in this area in about 1958.

Carpport [building]

Built: c. 1945

Style: Vernacular

Builder/Architect:

Rank: Historic, Contributing

Site ID#: 11

Description: The Carport is located to the east of the Ranger's Residence, measuring approximately 20' x 40'. The front, or northern portion, of the building is open on the sides while the southern end of the building is enclosed with board and batten siding. Four four-light windows, also reclaimed, are installed on the west side to provide natural daylight to the interior of the enclosed space. The columns are evenly spaced square timbers at the edge of the building's concrete floor. A wood shake clad gable roof covers the building, with board and batten siding in the northern gable end. The roof structure is exposed in the open area, and the plumb cut rafter tails are exposed.

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Alterations: The original construction date of this building is unknown. It was in place prior to 1950, and has served a variety of uses. The enclosure of the southern portion of the building was completed in about 1960 when Doc Palmer poured a floor and added walls to use the area for food storage. The lumber, like other materials in some park buildings, was reclaimed from the former Navy facility at Pacific Beach. The east and west sides of the northern portion of the building were once enclosed with board and batten siding. There was also formerly a hay storage area and a two-stall livestock shed on the south end of the building. The entry door to the enclosed space has been replaced with a contemporary steel door. Because the building's appearance is largely the same as at the end of the period of significance, it retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the surrounding district.

Woodshed [structure]

Built: c. 1952

Style: Vernacular

Builder/Architect:

Rank: Historic, Non-Contributing

Site ID#: 12

Description: The Woodshed is directly east of the Carport. It is a front gable structure, approximately 15' x 20' that is open on all four sides. Log columns support a log top plate on the east and west sides, above which is a conventionally framed gable roof clad with wood shakes. The gable ends are clad with board and batten siding. The building also features log diagonal bracing at the columns and a board slat enclosure on the east and south sides. The floor does not match the overall size of the structure, as it does not extend all the way to the northern end of the structure as the area was formerly a hay manger.

Alterations: The Woodshed has been continuously altered over its life. Originally the roof was part of another structure in the campground area, moved to this site in about 1952. C.C. "Doc" Palmer enclosed the building in its new location with board and batten siding and poured a partial concrete floor so the building could be used as a barn for his family's milk cow. The Palmer family ran cows in the park in closed areas until the late-1950s (approximately 1957). Since that time, the walls have been removed and the building converted to use as a woodshed. Due to the multiple changes in use resulting in a lack of integrity, the building does not contribute to the larger district.

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Summary

The Schafer State Park Historic District is historically significant under Criterion A for its association with the Schafer family, as the first donation for state park purposes from any corporation in the timber industry in this state, and for its association with a multitude of state and federal Depression-era relief programs. It is also significant under Criterion C as it represents a unique collection of buildings constructed in the NPS Rustic Style utilizing an unusual (and specifically discouraged) material for the primary cladding: river rock. It also exhibits compatible and sensitive changes to the buildings and site during the latter part of the period of significance under the supervision of District Superintendent C.C. "Doc" Palmer. The district maintains a high level of historic integrity, as it continues to function as a day-use and camping park, has survived without significant alterations since the end of the period of significance, and is representative of the quality of work under Depression-era programs in Washington State Parks. The period of significance for this nomination is from 1924, the date of the first donation of park land by the Schafer Brothers Logging Company, to 1960, when the last major modifications were completed by Doc Palmer.

Narrative Statement of Significance

In 1871, John D. and Anna Schafer arrived in Olympia from the Midwest (by way of San Francisco and Victoria B.C.) with their children including their son, Peter. Shortly after their arrival John built a raft, filled it with provisions and set forth down the Black River to find a place to homestead. After several mishaps, including the swamping of his raft and rescue by local Native Americans, he managed to get his provisions to a spot six miles up-river from the mouth of the Satsop River. There he built a crude shelter and returned to Olympia to retrieve his family. After a two-day ride in a horse-drawn wagon, the family arrived at the homestead. The family immediately set to work and soon had the property cleared and a reasonable cabin built. By 1879, two more brothers, Hubert and Albert, had been born to join Peter, and the team of three brothers who were to go on to form Schafer Brothers Lumber Company was complete. The

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family worked the land for the next fifteen years until in 1893 the three boys convinced their parents to let them try a bit of logging. Within a few years, with crews made up of friends, Muller family relatives and local Native Americans Billy Quiack, Amos Comenout, and Hyasman, logging of the Satsop area was underway. The life of these early pioneer settlers of the Satsop Valley has been documented in the unique, recently published letters of John D. Schafer written to his relatives in Germany between 1871 and 1898.

The Native American census in the late-1800s found only a small number of the Satsop Tribe still alive in the area around what became Schafer State park. As a consequence, natives of the area were required to select other tribes for affiliation. The Satsop residents had a choice of the Quinault or the Lower Chehalis Tribes. Most chose the Quinault and many of their descendants are members of the Quinault Nation today. Despite the small population, a tribal reservation was present on the southwest side of the Park land from the late-1800s until the middle of the 20th century. A tribal cemetery remains today on the former reservation land, which is now in private ownership. From the reservation the Schafers recruited tribal members such as Billy Quiack and Amos Comenout to work on their logging crews.

Soon the Schafer homestead on the Satsop became a center for settlers, hunters and timber cruisers coming into the area. Two local Native Americans made a pair of big dugout canoes which were always available to ferry visitors across the Satsop River. Anna Schafer provided good basic food for the many visitors coming and going.

Within a few years the Schafer logging operation had moved on from Bull team based logging to new methods, machine logging with a steam donkey engine and cables. By 1910 they had three big steam donkeys working. The next big escalation in their logging practices came in 1913 when they set up a railroad operation to bring their logs out of the woods. They proceeded the next year to incorporate as

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Schafer Brothers Logging Company with a capitalization of \$300,000. The Company went on to become one of the largest lumber operations in the State. At the peak of operation the Schafers were running one of the largest milling and shipping concerns in the lumber industry of the Pacific Northwest. A glance at their properties and equipment at this time, and not including ships and tugs, shows five sawmills in operation, served by six camps sending logs over 100 miles of rail. This required 18 locomotives, both geared and mainline types, and a total of 70 donkeys and 325 logging cars. The operation called for approximately 3000 employees. During the period from 1893 to 1924 the Schafer Brothers logging operation traversed the whole history of logging methods in use during that time, and they went on to expand into operating sawmills, door manufacturing plants, railroads and cargo ships.

During World War I the US Military found it difficult to obtain enough lumber products to meet the needs for aircraft building. In response Colonel Bryce Disque established the Army Spruce Division to recruit and enlist loggers into the Army. Schafer Brothers were reportedly the first logging company to procure soldiers to work in the woods in 1917. Of the 100 employed, the majority worked at Schafer Camp 5, adjacent to the land which became Schafer State Park. An additional feature of the Spruce Division was the founding of the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen (known as the 4Ls). An employee-owner union, the 4Ls eventually included almost all of the lumber owners and over 100,000 wood workers. The 4Ls outlasted the Spruce Division, eventually dying out in the 1930s.

In 1922 the Brothers decided to pay tribute to John D., who had died in 1898, and Anna, who had died in 1909, by donating land, which became Schafer State Park. At a ceremony on the spot, Schafer Brothers presented twenty-five acres of wonderful old virgin fir for use as a public park. The Montesano Chamber of Commerce had facilitated the gift and helped celebrate the opening in 1922, although the donation to the State was not finalized for nearly two years. No deed was executed at this time, and during the next two

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years it was decided that a better result would be for the land to be donated to the State rather than the City. On February 23, 1924 the Schafers executed the deed to the State for the land to be used as a State Park. The park contained 500 year-old trees that offered an image of what the Schafer family had seen in the area when they arrived in 1871. It was the first donation of park land by anyone connected with the timber industry and joined other early donations by private individuals and groups to help build the State Park system in the 1910s and early 1920s. The area had particular meaning to the brothers because the family had often fished and picnicked there in the years leading up to 1922, and it is located about three miles upriver from the original Schafer homestead.

Over the years the park had become a popular spot for picnics and was used by many large groups from the area. Schafer Brothers hosted an annual picnic there attended by up to 6,000 people. Contemporary reports from the local newspaper, the Montesano Vidette, give a picture of the events of the day. Not only were there many logging and lumbering contests such as high climbing, log rolling, log bucking, shingle packing, and log inspections, but also races and contests such as boys' and girls' swimming races, a canoe race, tug of war, pie eating contest, man with shiniest dome, oldest lady employee, a single ladies race and a married ladies race. Prizes were offered by local merchants from throughout the area. The Schafer Company also sponsored its own band, which provided entertainment at the annual picnics. Among other groups who held large picnics at the Park were the Farm Bureau with over 3,000 attendees, the Montesano Business Men, The Scandinavian Central Committee, The Order of Reineberg, The Germania Club, and Vasa Lodge.

In 1909 the State of Washington built a fish hatchery adjacent to the property which would become Schafer State Park. A hatchery built at the confluence of the Satsop and Chehalis Rivers in 1898 had failed. The State discovered that the area about six miles upriver on the Satsop was much more fruitful and built the

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hatchery next to the land that became Schafer Park. This part of the River was so productive that the hatchery broke every record of the State by generating 21,591,000 eggs in 1916. The area continued to be productive and two more hatcheries were built a few miles upriver from the one by the Park. From 1950 to 1960 the Washington State Department of Fisheries maintained the fish weir below the bridge at the park and harvested fish eggs for the hatchery at Bingham Creek. Fishery biologists frequented the area to conduct river surveys. The Satsop River in this area had long been known as a prime fishing spot and it has been understood that the area was a traditional fishing spot for the tribes who lived in the Chehalis Valley. The Schafers had a close relationship with the local Native Americans since the time John D. was rescued when his raft tipped over. Canoes were provided to the family and Native Americans were part of the early logging crews set up by the Schafer Brothers. It is likely that tribal members let the Schafers know of the excellent fishing around the area that became Schafer State Park.

In the years preceding the donation of the property to the state by the Schafer Brothers Logging Company, various improvements had been built on the land by volunteers. In the early 1920's a dance floor had been constructed, and in 1923, the Montesano Chamber of Commerce agreed to build a roof for the dance floor. Members of the Chamber held picnics and work parties to construct the roof. Earlier, Schafer Brothers had constructed a great many picnic tables for the Park. In addition, volunteers built four open-air brick ranges during this period. In 1925, new sheds with lunch counters were built, a pump was installed and the dance pavilion was improved and electrically lighted by a specially installed dynamo.

In the early 1930's, work continued on renovating existing amenities and building new ones. Workmen were recruited from the County Charity Commission and funding was obtained from the Civil Works Administration (CWA). In November 1933, the CWA approved an expenditure of \$4,952 to clean up the park, construct a road, develop a water system, and construct a comfort station. The CWA was newly

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established at this point, having just been created on November 9, and operated under the umbrella of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA). The CWA was established to directly provide jobs, which FERA did not accomplish. The initial goal for this short term program was to create four million jobs over the winter of 1933-1934. The program was highly successful, with over 4.2 million workers on the CWA payroll by mid-January. The CWA paid relatively high wages, and due to the expense of the program (costing over \$1 billion in five months) and its perceived limited productivity the program was terminated in March of 1934. On average, 80 percent of the CWA project costs were spent on wages. Projects initiated under the program were seen to completion, however, under FERA. The projects under the CWA program were initiated and managed by state or local governments, and every effort was made to match the projects with the needs and skills of the local unemployed workers. At the end of the CWA program, the program was essentially reformed into the Washington Emergency Relief Administration (WERA), the local agency of FERA.

Earlier in 1933, with funds from the State Parks Commission, and under the Supervision of Fred Russell, three brick camp stoves, five 8-foot tables, two 60-foot tables, and three 48-foot tables were built. In addition, two small kitchens were built and repairs were made to the rest rooms. Funding for this work came from an allotment of \$40,000 from the Parks and Parkways fund for emergency relief work. This funding was approved in February of 1933 and within ten days over 300 men were working in various State Parks.

Fred Russell was instrumental in overseeing the work in the park during the early-1930s. He was initially hired for the emergency relief work in early 1933, then worked under the CWA starting in November of 1933 as a foreman for improvements in the park under that program. A resident of Aberdeen, Russell served not only as a CWA foreman but was also listed on the State Parks payroll as "Caretaker" during the

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summer of 1934. Russell worked closely with State Parks Superintendent W.G. Weigle, reporting weekly to either him or the State Parks Committee.

In the mid 1930's, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) was brought in to construct buildings in the Park. The WPA was a relief measure established in 1935 by Presidential Executive Order. The WPA assumed the work of FERA, which was terminated in 1935. As the largest agency of President Roosevelt's New Deal relief program, congress appropriated \$4,880,000,000 for the WPA program. The WPA was designed to offer work to the unemployed on an unprecedented scale by spending money on a wide variety of programs, including highways and building construction, slum clearance, reforestation, and rural rehabilitation. By March 1936, the WPA rolls had reached a total of more than 3,400,000 persons; after initial cuts in June 1939, employment averaged 2,300,000 people a month. By June 30, 1943, when the program was ended, the WPA had employed more than 8,500,000 different persons on 1,410,000 individual projects, and had spent about \$11 billion. During its 8-year history, the WPA built 651,087 miles of highways, roads, and streets; and constructed, repaired, or improved 124,031 bridges, 125,110 public buildings, 8,192 parks, and 853 airport landing fields.

In Washington State by 1938, the WPA employed 51,300 workers to complete a variety of projects in every county. One-third of the work was done on the construction and improvement of roads, and more than a tenth was invested in parks, playgrounds and other recreational facilities. The average monthly wage for a 110-hour work month was \$56.73. By the end of 1938, over 80 million dollars in WPA funds had been invested for projects in Washington State.

Between 1933 and 1938, at least \$16,731 had been obtained from the WPA and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) to improve Schaffer Park. With these funds it was possible to build the

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ranger's residence (1936), two comfort stations, a registration booth, two kitchens, a drinking fountain, and a water system. It is noteworthy that the buildings were constructed using local materials. The Montesano Vidette reported in 1936 that "all buildings constructed on this project are of material gathered in the Park: rocks from the Satsop River and timbers, roofing, windows and doors from native fir and cedar ...". It should be noted that the use of washed river rock in Depression-era facilities is quite unique, particularly since the National Park Service advised against it because of the supposed instability of the materials. However, at Schafer, the use of these materials lends a notable cohesion to the built features of the Park. For example, sloping window sills of larger river cobbles, very uniform in size, are consistent throughout.

During the 1940's little work was undertaken as World War II and its aftermath required the attention of the entire population. The 1950's, however, saw a new burst of energy and interest in improvements for the park. By this time the dance hall had become unusable and was taken down. In 1953 it was replaced with a pavilion open on three sides with an enormous river rock fireplace set into the end wall. Superintendent C. C. "Doc" Palmer rebuilt the kitchens on the day-use and camp sides of the Park and built the entrance monuments between 1950 and 1953. The 1950s also saw the expansion of the camp area with additional camp sites, construction of a river trail and completion of the loop on the day-use side of the Park. In 1954 a shop/warehouse/superintendent's apartment was built using many recycled materials from the World War II Pacific Beach Navy Facility.

Much of the development in the park following the work of the Depression-era programs resulting in the current character of the park was the work of Clarence Clyde "Doc" Palmer. Born in Elyria Ohio in 1906, Palmer was raised on a small subsistence farm. He developed an interest in art and landscaping early in life, and attended Ohio Wesleyan University for one year before transferring to Michigan State University. He earned a degree in Landscape Architecture by 1930, and found work as a landscaper, furniture maker,

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and ice cream maker prior to World War II. He was drafted into the Army, and served as a surgical technician.

Palmer came west with his young family in 1948. The family's first stop was Sequim Bay, where he ran a road building crew for a private contractor in Sequim Bay State Park. After that, State Parks hired him to assist in landscaping the golf course at Sun Lakes State Park. In 1950, he became Superintendent at Schafer State Park and by April of 1952 was promoted to District Superintendent as State Parks was rapidly expanding and had divided the state into four districts. He kept his district office in the park, overseeing the southwest Washington parks, until his death in August of 1973. Palmer was an advocate of the Rustic style, and often used the phrase "mark it with chalk, cut it with an axe, and call it rustic". Developments in the park during his years continued the principles of rustic architecture, using native and natural materials. Palmer also made great use of salvaged materials, especially from the former Navy facility at Pacific Beach where he obtained windows, siding, and other building materials.

In 1946 and 1951 additional land was added to the Park by purchases from the Creamer and Nuxoll families totaling 42.74 acres. Although on January 8, 1953 the Schafer family executed a deed transferring 53 acres of additional land for the Park, it wasn't until January of 1955 that a formal presentation was made. With this last gift the Park's size was increased to its present 119.57 acres. The Montesano Vidette of January 17, 1955 featured a photo of Marie Schafer (widow of Peter) and Helen Schafer (widow of Albert) making the presentation to John R. Vanderzicht, State Parks Director.

Schafer State Park represents not only a unique example of the high quality craftsmanship of the WPA and other emergency programs of the 1930s but also a window into the settlement of the Satsop Valley, the vast lumber operations that were undertaken there and in the surrounding forests in the early years of the 20th

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Century, and the bounty available from the river stretching far back into the history of Native Americans in the Northwest. It also memorializes an early example of philanthropy by private citizens and corporations in Washington State, an effort that has continued over the years and that has been crucial to the expansion of the State Park system.

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<http://content.lib.washington.edu/index.html> (University of Washington Digital Collection)

<http://www.jonesphotocollection.com/> (Jones Historic Photo Collection)

*Note: both the Jones Collection and the University of Washington Digital Collection have literally hundreds of historic photos of the Schafer Brothers Logging Company operations, the Satsop area, and some of the park.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM References

The four UTM references provided are a simplified version of the actual boundary of Schafer State Park. These four points begin at the southwest corner of the park, traveling clockwise to roughly encompass the park boundary. Additional UTM references are provided below giving the points for the exact park boundary, beginning at the southwest corner of the park and traveling clockwise.

Additional UTM References:

- 1) 10 463961E 5215861N
- 2) 10 463959E 5216047N
- 3) 10 464351E 5216061N
- 4) 10 464363E 5216458N
- 5) 10 465154E 5216437N
- 6) 10 465144E 5216046N
- 7) 10 464614E 5215852N

Verbal Boundary Description

From a point beginning at the southwest corner of the park, thence north 0.12 miles, thence east 0.24 miles, thence north 0.25 miles, thence east 0.49 miles, thence south 0.25 miles, thence west-southwest 0.35 miles, thence west 0.4 miles to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

Boundaries for the Schafer State Park Historic District were selected to encompass the entire park as it exists both today and at the end of the period of significance (1924-1960).

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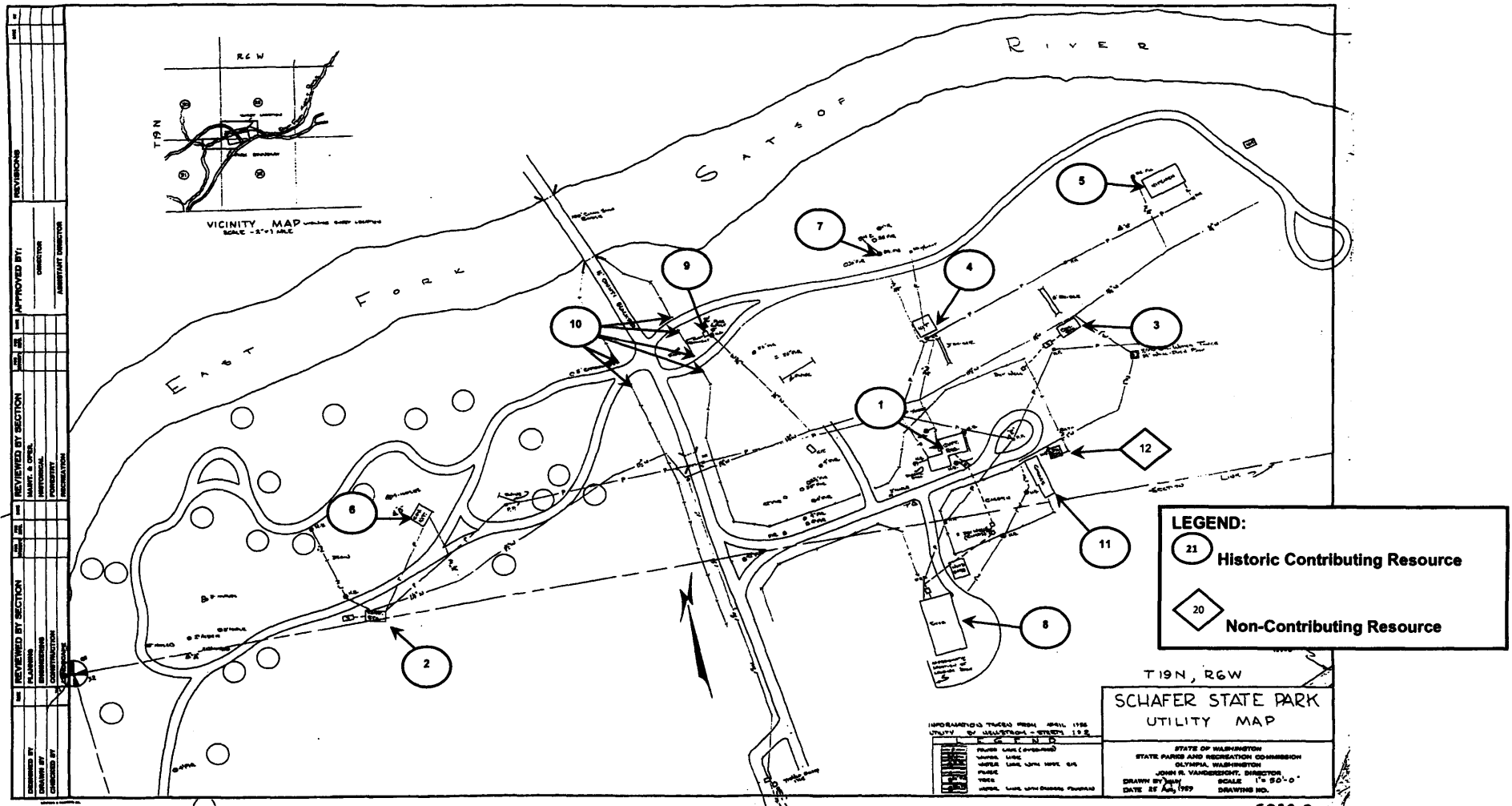
Photographic Index

Note: All photos taken by Alex McMurry, October 15, 2009. All photos are digital, with original electronic files on file at the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and at Washington State Parks Headquarters.

1. Ranger's Residence (ID#1), view to southwest of primary façade.
2. Ranger's Residence (ID#1), view to northwest.
3. Campground Comfort Station (ID#2), view to south.
4. Campground Comfort Station (ID#2), view to southeast.
5. Day-Use Comfort Station (ID#3), view to south.
6. Day-Use Comfort Station (ID#3), view to northeast.
7. Day-Use Small Kitchen (ID#4), view to southeast.
8. Day-Use Small Kitchen (ID#4), view to southwest.
9. Day-Use Large Kitchen (ID#5), view to east.
10. Day-Use Large Kitchen (ID#5), view to west.
11. Day-Use Large Kitchen (ID#5), detail view to west of fireplace.
12. Campground Kitchen Shelter / Interpretive Center (ID#6), view to southwest.
13. Drinking Fountain (ID#7), view to southeast (note ID#3 at right center and ID#5 at left).
14. Park Shop (ID#8), view to southwest.
15. Schafer Monument (ID#9), view to east.
16. Entry Pylons (ID#10), view to north.
17. Carport (ID#11), view to southeast.
18. Woodshed (ID#12), view to southeast.

BRIEF INVENTORY OF RESOURCES IN SCHAFER STATE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

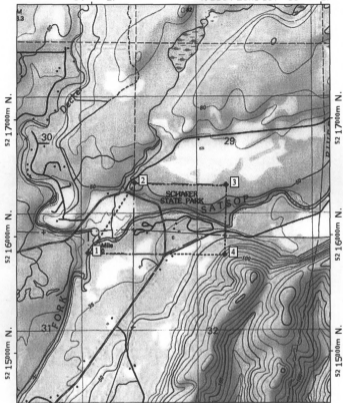
Historic Name	ID #	Rank	Built Date	Style
Ranger's Residence	1	Historic, Contributing	1936	NPS Rustic
Campground Comfort Station	2	Historic, Contributing	1934	NPS Rustic
Day-Use Area Comfort Station	3	Historic, Contributing	1934	NPS Rustic
Day-Use Small Kitchen	4	Historic, Contributing	c. 1934	NPS Rustic
Day-Use Large Kitchen	5	Historic, Contributing	1953	NPS Rustic
Campground Kitchen Shelter / Interpretive Center	6	Historic, Contributing	c. 1934	NPS Rustic
Drinking Fountain	7	Historic, Contributing	c. 1936	NPS Rustic
Park Shop	8	Historic, Contributing	1954	Vernacular
Schafer Monument	9	Historic, Contributing	1924	Other (vernacular)
Entry Pylons (6 total)	10	Historic, Contributing	1951	NPS Rustic
Carport	11	Historic, Contributing	c. 1945	Vernacular
Woodshed	12	Historic, Non-Contributing	c. 1952	Vernacular



Schafer State Park Resource Map
 Base Map is WSPRC Drawing S220-3

464000m E.

WGS84 Zone 10T 466000m E.



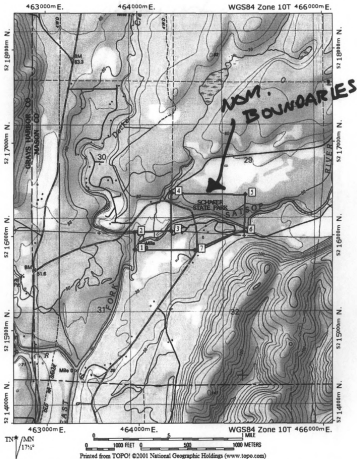
464000m E.

WGS84 Zone 10T 466000m E.



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Boundary map with four principal UTM points identified. USGS Elma Quadrangle excerpt.



Boundary map with detail UTM points provided in Section 10. USGS Eima Quadrangle excerpt.



Schafer Family Portrait, c. 1900. Standing, left to right: Peter, Hubert, Albert. Anna and John D. seated.



Schafer family outing on the Satsop River, 1885. Jones Photo No. 24662. Schafer homestead in background.



Studio photo c. 1891. L to R: Billy Quiack, Hubert Schafer, Herman Miller (seated), and Amos Commenout.



Schafer logging crew on Satsop River at Juno, taken in 1906 by H.G. Nelson. Albert Schafer seated at left on sled, tribal members Billy Quiack and Amos Commenout sharpening axe in foreground.



Schafer Brothers Logging Donkey Engines and Spar, Labor Day 1923. Jones Photo 5090-B.



Schafer Brothers Lumber Company Mill. C.K. Kinsey Photo.



Undated photo of Schafer Brothers logging crew on Satsop River. Photo by Smith.



Schafer Brothers railroad logging operation.



Schafer Brothers Portrait, 1926. L to R: Peter (1869-1945), Albert (1880-1945), Hubert (1873-1931).



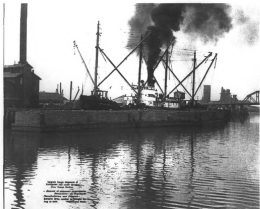
Schafer Brothers Logging Camp, June 27, 1940. Jones Photo No. 5068-4.



62nd Squadron at Schafer Bros. Logging Co., Satsop, Wash., ca. 1917, by The Jones Studio, Betty Perry Collection, Washington State Archives, Southwest Regional Branch.



Schafer Brothers and Crew, May 13, 1936. 425 year old Douglas fir, 300 feet high.



Schafer Lumber & Shingle Company, August 13, 1938. Jones Photo 15840. "Largest Cargo Shipment of Certigrade red cedar shingles from Grays Harbor... 12,000 squares."



Schafer Logging Railroad, December 1937. Jones Photo No. 15251.



SS Margaret Schafer, c. 1945. Jones Photo No. 21338.



Schafer Brothers Logging photo, June 27, 1940. Jones Photo No. 17366.



Taking fish for spawning at the Chehalis Salmon Hatchery, 1916. Salmon operation on the Satsop River adjacent to the park. Image courtesy of the Freshwater and Marine Image Bank, U of Washington Digital Collections.



1922 Dedication of Schafer Park, August 22, 1922. Kinsey Photo No. 430.



Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, August 22 1926. Kinsey Photo.



Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, August 14, 1927. View of fish weir and bridge looking upstream. Kinsey Photo.



Bathing Beauty Contest, Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, August 14, 1927. Kinsey Photo No. 50.



Former Pavilion at Schafer State Park. Asahel Curtis Photo No. 60660, c. 1936.



Water boxing contest at Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, July 1938. Jones Photo No. 15760.



Wood ball rolling by Earl Stone at Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, July 1938.



Log rolling at Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, July 1938. Jones Photo No. 15772.



Elton Schmidt display at Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, July 1938. Jones Photo No. 15766.



Nail driving contest at Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, July 1938. Jones Photo No. 15763.



Entry monument, photo taken during Schafer Brothers Annual Picnic, July 1938. Jones Photo No. 15774.