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United States	Department	of the	e Int	erior
National Park	Service	ty≂ nationality t	ez el la cli Centra	i nije Na se

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

JAN 1 4 1991

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.

(Form 10-900a). Type all entrie	S.				
1. Name of Property					
historic name	Columbia	Southern Ra	Iroad Pass	enger Station a	and Freight Warehouse
other names/site number			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
2. Location					
street & number	Clark ar	d Fulton Stre	ota	N/	not for publication
city, town	Wasco		A./(N/	
state Oregon		R county	Sherman	code 05	
3. Classification					
Ownership of Property	Ca	ategory of Property		Number of Resou	rces within Property
private	X	building(s)		Contributing	Noncontributing
v public-local		district		1	buildings
public-State		site			sites
public-Federal		structure			structures
	[object			objects
	-			_1	0 Total
Name of related multiple pro	operty listing:				buting resources previously
N/A				listed in the Natio	onal Register <u>N/A</u>
4. State/Federal Agency	Certification)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
In my opinion, the proper Signature of certifying officia	rty X meets <i>Fam</i>	does not meet th	e National Regis	ster criteria. 🗌 See c	et forth in 36 CFR Part 60. ontinuation sheet. D <u>ecember 31, 1990</u> Date
State or Federal agency and					
In my opinion, the proper	ty 🗌 meets 🗌	does not meet the	e National Regis	ster criteria. 🗌 See c	ontinuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or	other official		15.1		Date
State or Federal agency and	l bureau				
5. National Park Service	e Certification	٦			·····
I, hereby, certify that this pr	operty is:				
See continuation sheet.	ne National	Autouire	te q lece		2/19/91
Register. See continua determined not eligible fo National Register.					

6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) Recreation and culture: museum			
Transportation, rail-related				
Train Depot	Work in progress			
				
7. Description	······································			
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)			
	foundation	wood post on block		
Other: Vernacular	walls	wood: weatherboards		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	roof	asphalt: roll roofing		
	other			

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The depot and warehouse is located on Lots 1 & 2 on the northeast corner of Block 6, corner of Clark and Fulton Streets, City of Wasco, Biggs Addition, Sherman County, State of Oregon. The building is aligned with the track, or rails, where the rails entered the block from Fulton Street Lot 4, and exited on Clark Street on Lots 11 & 12 in a southeasterly direction.

The building is all wood construction. The foundation is post and block. The depot is a two-story building with living quarters on the upper flocr for the depot agent and his family. The warehouse is on the west end joining the depot and is one story, with the floor elevated enough that it was on a level with the freight and baggage cars. A piece of sheet metal could be layed across from the dock to the baggage car and freight could be wheeled across to the warehouse.

The overall length of the building is seventy (70) feet. The warehouse part if forty (40) feet long and thirty (30) feet wide. The depot is thirty (30) feet long and in line with the south or track side of the warehouse. The depot is twenty-two (22) feet wide and two stories high with living quarters on the upper level. A deck or porch on the north side makes an entrance to the office and other door to the stairway.

The outside of the building is covered with lumber known as drop siding, so made, the lower edge of the board is 3/4 inch thick and has a grove cut on the back side so it will lap over the board below. The face side of the board was planed down to a 3/8 inch thickness at the top edge and was sloped out to full size about one and one-half inches $(1\frac{1}{2})$ from the top side. The underside was generally left in the rough and this rough surface gave the carpenters many slivers. The inside of the building is covered with what is known as ceiling board. It is 3/4 of an inch thick and has a grove milled in the center and another one near the top edge. A grove cut in the bottom edge matches a ridge cut on the top edge, so the board fit together very tightly and makes a good seal.

The ceilings were covered with cheese cloth and then papered over. This paper and cloth stops dust from leaking through the joints; the walls were painted.

There is no insulation anyplace in the building. The framing in the depot is two by four studing, planed on two sides (edges) so that the walls were of uniform thickness, the sides were left in the rough.

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The depot was divided as follows: the room on the east end lower floor 13x21 feet is the passenger waiting room, with doors to the street on the north one to the south to the loading area or track side. Another door to the office area. Two windows on the east side. The office size 16x21 has two windows on the south and overlooks the track, one window and a door on the north side goes to the porch and to the street; this porch or deck is 8x10 feet ad also makes access to the loading dock on the north side of the warehouse. A door up three steps goes to the warehouse inside. Another door to the stairway to the living space upstairs.

The room on the right of the stairs upper level is the kitchen 12x10. There are cabinets along the south and west walls, on the west walls are both upper and lower cabinets and fitted with a cast iron sink and drain board that has sustained the many years of use without cracking. Three small windows look to the south over the track.

Cooking was done on a cast iron range attached to a flue from the office room below and out the ridge of the roof. The building was heated with coal for m any years before the use of oil became popular. A room 10x10 on the west side of the kitchen was used as storage and pantry for many years. A hox covered with fly screen extended from a window overlooking the warehouse and was used as a cooler. The box was used to store milk, eggs and such other foods. It was cooler in the warehouse than in the apartment. This type of cooler was found in many homes before the refrigerator came into use.

This pantry room was later converted to a bathroom. A big fire burned much of the city so sewage and water system was built in 1902.

The room to the left of the stairs is the living room 12x21 feet and having four windows, two to the east and one each north and south. It was heated by a pot bellied stove attached to a flue from the waiting room below and out the peak of the roof making two flues on the roof about six feet apart. On the west and to the north side is an archway to a dining room. This room is 16x8 feet and has a door to the kitchen, a bedroom to the west and a door to a room that was built on later and used as a bedroom when the station agent had an increase in the family. The dining room has small windows on the north wall. A door from here to a bedroom 10x14 feet extends out over the warehouse, has one window that looks into the warehouse and the attic over the warehouse. A clothes closet or press on the north wall is 10x4, the bedroom that was added later extends out over the porch below and has windows on the north and east side. The roof is straight line gable and in two elevations. The roof on the depot is about three feet higher than the roof of the warehouse.

The most outstanding feature of this building is the roof gutters. They are built into the roof, starting at one end of the building and up from the bottom edge, two pieces of lumber were nailed into a vee shape and fastened to the roof to make a ridge or trough. The roofing starting at the peak of the roof extended down into the trough up over the ridge and onto the bottom

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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of the roof. The water would run along this trough and to the end of the building and into a pipe and to the ground.

The warehouse had a loading dock all around the warehouse. After 1936 when there was no more shipping from the depot the dock on the south or track side was reduced in size, to six feet wide and twenty feet in length. The loading dock on the north side and west side to center of building are the original.

8. Statement of Significance				
Certifying official has considered the	significance of this pro	erty in relation to other		-
Applicable National Register Criteria	ХА В СС	D		
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)		D DE F	G	
Areas of Significance (enter categorie Transportation	s from instructions)	Period of Signi 1898-1936	licance	Significant Dates
		Cultural Affiliati	on	
Significant Person		Architect/Builde		
N/A		Unknown		

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

9. Major Bibliograp	ohical References	
	d French, Giles, <u>Rails to the Mid-</u> e editor of the <u>Sherman County Jou</u>	Columbia Wheatlands, authors, 1979. rnal from 1931 to 1963.)
French, Giles, "	The Golden Land," 1958.	
Corning, Howard Mort, 1956.	McKinley, ed., <u>Dictionary of Orego</u>	n History, Portland, Binfords and
Almquist, Leonar County, Oregon	d, National Register nomination fo , February 28, 1980.	rm, Shaniko Historic District, Wasco
Previous documentation	on on file (NPS)	See continuation sheet
	nination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of additional data:
has been requeste		State historic preservation office
	n the National Register	Other State agency
productions in the second se	ned eligible by the National Register	Federal agency
designated a National Action	onal Historic Landmark	Local government
recorded by Histor	ric American Buildings	University
Survey #	<u> </u>	Other
	ric American Engineering	Specify repository:
Record #		
10. Geographical	Data	
	0.22 acres Wasco, Orego	n 1:24000
Acreage of property _		1.24000
UTM References A <u>1</u> 0 6796 Zone Easting	51610 510 510 91610 B Northing	Zone Easting Northing
c [] []	D	
		See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Des	cription	
Meridian, in the Lots 1 and 2, B abandoned railr	e City of Wasco, Sherman County, O lock 6, Biggs Addition to the Plat	9, Township 1N, Range 17E, Willamette regon. It is legally described as of Wasco, including that segment of id lots. It is otherwise identified See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	,]	
•	rea is compsed of the two platted	lots historically occupied by the
Columbia Southe	rn Railroad Passenger Station and	Freight Warehouse from 1898 onward.
		See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepare	d By	
name/title	Leslie J. Bowser, Chairman	
organization	Friends of the Depot	date June 25, 1990
street & number	PO Box 282, 623 Columbia Stree	
city or town	Wasco	stateOregon zip code97065_

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SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Columbia Southern Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Warehouse located at the corner of Clark and Fulton streets at the heart of Wasco, a trading center for surrounding wheat ranches of Sherman County, Oregon was completed and opened for use in 1898.

Completion of a transcontinental railroad along the Columbia River in the 1880s provided ranchers with access to national markets. Reaching rails along the Columbia, however, still required stock drives or wagon treks from the uplands of the interior. Only after short line railroads financed by the region's ranchers penetrated the canyons to the south did wheat, cattle and wool production in eastern Oregon reach full potential.

Construction of the Columbia Southern Railroad was begun at Biggs, on the Columbia, in 1897, and the first seven miles of track were completed to Wasco in the same year, thus signaling the growth of population and economic development of Sherman County. Although the short line was eclipsed as a route to the interior upon completion of the Oregon Trunk Railway in 1911, the Columbia Southern continued to serve local shipping until the advent of motor freight. Passenger service and under-carload shipments were discontinued in 1936. In 1964 all service was halted in the winter flood that badly damaged the line between Biggs and Wasco. The line was abandoned in 1966. Today, the station at Wasco is the only architectural feature remaining in the region to illustrate the history of the short line that contributed so much to Sherman County economy and to the economy of neighboring Wasco County. As such, it meets National Register Criterion A under the theme of transportation.

The Columbia Southern tracks bisected the town's compass-oriented grid layout on the diagonal, northwest to southeast, truncating the double lot of the station site at its southwest corner. The station is readily identifiable as a functional type even though the rail right of way is abandoned and the tracks are no longer in evidence. It is very little altered from its appearance during the historic period of use 1898-1936. Even the trackside loading platform is in place on the west elevation, though lacking its steps from grade level.

The station is a vernacular wood frame building clad with shiplap siding. The 30 x 22-foot core is a gable-roofed volume, two stories in height to contain upstairs living quarters for the depot agent. The interior is finished with horizontal tongue and groove wall boards and simple trim elements. The exterior is

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characterized by boxed eaves and raked frieze boards; plain corner boards and door and window surrounds. Wall penetrations are somewhat irregularly spaced, and window openings typically are fitted with double-hung sash having one-over-one lights. Two brick stove chimneys straddle the roof ridge at the center. At the northerly end of the core, a single-story freight wing extends the main axis by 40 feet. Sliding freight doors are centered in its easterly and westerly side elevations.

COLUMBIA SOUTHERN RAILROAD

The high Columbia Plateau east of Oregon's Cascade Range receives modest rainfall and has a thin soil structure more suitable for ranching than for crop production. The discovery of gold in eastern Oregon early in the 1860s stimulated the early stockraising industry, as ranchers found a market among the thousands of miners streaming to Canyon City and Auburn. By the 1880s, ranchers had access to national markets via main line railroad along the Columbia River. Long and arduous stock drives and wagon treks from interior points ended when short line railroads financed by the region's ranchers and bankers were constructed to feed the transcontinental network. The Columbia Southern Railroad was among the last of the short lines to be put into operation.

Construction of the Columbia Southern Railroad was begun in 1897 at Biggs on the Columbia River and in two years' time had progressed through Sherman County. Work on the last stretch into Shaniko in Wasco County, the adjoining county to the west, was completed in 1900. The first seven miles of track were completed to Wasco in October 1897, and signaled the beginning of development in Sherman County. Shaniko was the southern terminus of the Columbia Southern line. It was chosen because of its strategic location at the site of springs at the top of two canyons giving access to the plains of the interior. On completion of the Columbia Southern to that point early in 1900, Shaniko was transformed into one of the major wool shipping points of the West.

After being in service on the full extent of its trackage for slightly over a decade, the Columbia Southern was superseded in importance by the Oregon Trunk Railway, completed to Bend in 1911. The latter was the result of a prolonged railroad-building race between James Jerome Hill of the Great Northern, the winner, and E. H. Harriman of the Union Pacific. The new rail line lay across the wheat country of Sherman County, dropped down into the canyon of the Deschutes, a tributary of the Columbia, and eventually

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connected the Columbia River transportation routes to central Oregon points as far south as Klamath Falls near the California border.

Although the Columbia Southern was eclipsed as a route to the interior, it continued to serve local shipping until the advent of motor freight. Passenger service and under carload shipments were discontinued in 1936. In 1964 all service was halted in the winter flood that badly damaged the line between Biggs and Wasco. The line was abandoned in 1966.

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The following notes were taken from the book "The Golden Land" by Giles French and the book "Rails to Mid Columbia Wheat Land" by John F. Due & Giles French. Giles French was the editor of the Sherman County Journal from 1931 to 1963.

On March 4th, 1897, Mr. E.E. Lytle, Drake C. O'Rielyand and J.M. Murchie filed incorporation papers; the Columbia Southern Railroad was on its way. The purpose was to tap the area of Central Oregon. Wheat was fast becoming the major crop in Sherman County. The railroad had influence on the development of central Oregon. Construction started in June of 1897. The grading of the roadbed was done with teams of horses and slip scrappers borrowed from farmers that wanted to help. On October 4, 1897 seven miles of track were completed and Engineer Spear pulled the first engine and freight or baggage car into Wasco.

This was a great day for Wasco. There was now a railroad here. A big celebration was held; girls in gay dresses, matrons in proper attire, prominent-citizens with stuffed vests and cigars held high shouted their happiness. Wasco was going to be a city. A metropolis and the center of industrial and agricultural activity. It was reported that 200,000 sacks of wheat were stored along the tracks in Wasco ready to be shipped. The railroad was extended on to the south and reached Shaniko May 3, 1900.

When the railroad reached Wasco it was the start of future development in Sherman County. The dream that the railroad would extend to Central Oregon never did develop for the reason that two large canyons to the south were very deep. The balance of Sherman County profited because of the railroad. Crops could be shipped by rail where before everything had to be taken to the Columbia River by team and wagon; cattle were driven overland. The railroad was the reason that Shaniko became the wool shipping center and a world marketplace. At one point in time there were 31 warehouses with an average storage capacity of 40,000 bushels along the line of the Columbia Southern Railroad. The population of Sherman County increased from 1,792 persons in 1890 to 3,477 in 1900 and to 4,242 in 1910.

Passenger service and less than carload shipments were discontinued in 1936. Carload shipments of wheat and cattle continued on call from The Dalles. All service stopped due to the big flood in December of 1964. The line was badly damaged between Wasco and Biggs Junction. Approximately four miles of the track and roadbed completely vanished. The lines were never repaired and used again. The line was abandoned in 1966 and what few cars were left were hauled out by truck to the main line at Biggs Junction.



N.E.I/4 N.W.I/4 SEC. 9 T.I N. R.I7 E. W.M. SHERMAN COUNTY 1" = 100'







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Section number Photos Page 1

Columbia Southern Railroad Depot

(This information is the same for all photographs listed)

Columbia Southern Railroad Depot Building City of Wasco; County of Sherman; State of Oregon Photographer and location of negatives: Les Bowser P.O. Box 282 623 Columbia Street Wasco, Oregon 97065

Date of pictures: 1989 Number of pictures of location: 11 (eleven)

PHOTOGRAPH LEGEND

1 of 11: Depot at Clark and Fulton Streets. Photo taken across intersection by City Hall. Looking southwesterly.

2 of 11: View north along Clark Street ... Southwest and southeast elevations.

3 of 11: Northeast view; City Hall in background. Northwest end and southwest elevs.

4 of 11: Southeast view along tracks. Tracks were to right of depot. NW end.

5 of 11: Close-up of east end of depot from trackside. Southwest and southeast elevs.

6 of 11: Office area.

7 of 11: Waiting room; flue attached to wall.

8 of 11: Dining room; bedroom to right (#17).

9 of 11: Sink, drainboard and cabinets in kitchen.

10 of 11: Living room and arch to dining room.

11 of 11: Food cooler attached to window from bathroom extended into warehouse.

HISTORIC VIEW

Columbia Southern Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Warehouse Undated photo (c. 1908); photographer unknown. Looking northwesterly. Oregon Historical Society Neg. No. ORHI #18906; 1230 SW Park Ave., Portland, OR 97205

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000059

Date Listed: 2/19/91

<u>Columbia Southern Railroad</u> <u>Passenger Station</u> <u>and Freight Warehouse</u> Property Name

<u>Sherman</u> <u>OR</u> County State

<u>N/A</u> Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Bignature of the Keeper

2/19/9/ of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Function or Use: "Recreation and culture: museum," should be deleted because work on the property at the time of nomination was still in progress.

This information was confirmed with Elizabeth Potter of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)