

PH0369799

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 13 1976
DATE ENTERED	DEC 12 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Baker (Horace) Log Cabin

AND/OR COMMON
Same

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER off Oregon 224, ~~NE~~ corner junction of Redland and Forsythe Road

CITY, TOWN

Carver

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Second

STATE

Oregon

CODE
41

COUNTY

Clackamas

CODE

005

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Old Timers' Association of Oregon

STREET & NUMBER 16918 S. Clackamas River Dr.

CITY, TOWN

Oregon City

VICINITY OF

STATE

Oregon

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clackamas County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Oregon City,

STATE

Oregon

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE

1970

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

State Parks and Recreation Branch

CITY, TOWN

525 Trade St., SE, Salem

STATE

Oregon

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Horace Baker Cabin is an exceptionally noteworthy example of log construction in Oregon. The single chamber, story-and-a-half cabin measures 20' x 30'. The gable roof is cantilevered over the south-facing front door and at the east gable end, where it shelters a stairway to the loft. Prevailing winds during Western Oregon's winter months' rainy season come from the south-southwest.

The architectural prototype for log buildings with a cantilevered gable end lofts comes from the forested regions of northern Europe. It was brought to America at an early date and examples of the type can be found at various locations in the Eastern United States, especially in the Ohio River Valley. A notable example is the Bowman Cabin in East Elkhorn, Kentucky, dating from about 1780.

The walls of the Baker Cabin are constructed with 12" x 12" square milled logs that were planed in a local sawmill to be shipped to San Francisco. When the California company reneged on the deal, Horace Baker purchased the logs to use for his new cabin. In the construction of the cabin, the logs rest on an unmortared rock foundation then are lapped on top of each other and, except for the top two and bottom two, the logs are not chinked. The fireplace has an exterior chimney, is constructed with rocks taken from the nearby quarry, and is held together with clay mortar. There are five windows, each with twelve lights; two are in the south wall, two are in the north wall, and one in the east wall.

The loft is supported on round log beams with notches cut into the logs on the sections overhanging the front porch. The loft flooring is 1" x 4" planks and the east and west walls are of board and batten construction. The interesting feature of the loft is its exterior stairway and balcony leading to the loft. The exterior balcony is supported by the top two logs of the north and south walls in a similar cantilever system as the loft supports.

In 1939, the Old Timers' Association of Oregon restored the Baker Cabin. During the restoration, new logs were cut from a nearby hill and hewn to the same dimensions as the originals. It appears that two to three of the bottom logs were replaced around the base of the cabin on the original rock foundation. At the same time, new shakes were split on the site to replace the roof. Also in the 1939 restoration, the cabin was treated for termites.

The Old Timers' Association has made repairs on the building as needed and, for the most part, the work has been sympathetic to the architectural integrity of the cabin. Unattractive wire mesh screens have been placed over the windows to protect against vandalism, and the cabin has been electrically wired with the fuse box prominently in view on the front porch. The above alterations, although unattractive, are not necessarily permanent. With encouragement, the Association could easily take care of the security and electrical systems in a more discreet and architecturally sympathetic fashion.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1856

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Horace Baker

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, the Horace Baker Cabin is the only known example in Oregon of log construction with a cantilevered loft. Horace Baker also made important contributions to the early development of the Oregon City area as a farmer, a well pump manufacturer, a ferry operator, by operating a rock quarry, by donating part of his land for a fish hatchery, and by helping to incorporate the Oregon City Water Company.

Horace Baker and Jane Hattan (later Mrs. Baker) came to Oregon via the Oregon Trail in 1846. Baker settled a 640 acre land claim under the Donation Land Law of 1850. He was, however, only entitled to 320 acres since he was not legally married to Jane Hattan. In an attempt to clear title to all 640 acres of land, Horace Baker and Jane Hattan were married in 1852. But, since they were not married prior to December 1, 1850, the government refused to accept the full 640 acre claim when it was reviewed in 1855.

Besides farming, Horace Baker dabbled in a number of other enterprises. In the 1850 census, he was listed as a pump maker. In this venture, he built wooden pumps and installed them in the local area around Oregon City. Baker and two other men petitioned to the Oregon Territory Legislative Assembly to obtain a charter for a water works for Oregon City in 1851. A charter was granted in 1854 to provide "a constant supply of fresh and pure water", but no information survives regarding the success of this project. In 1872, Baker built and operated a slack-cable ferry across the Clackamas River. The ferry was swept away by high water in 1882 and the county built a covered bridge across the river one year later. Baker operated a rock quarry on his land which provided rock for the Willamette Falls Locks near Oregon City constructed in 1872 (the locks were entered in the National Register 2/5/74). A salmon hatchery was established by Livingstone Stone on land donated by Horace Baker in 1876. Horace Baker died in 1882.

As mentioned in the physical description, the Baker Cabin is the only known log structure in Oregon with cantilever supported loft and exterior stairway. There is no evidence to suggest why Horace Baker chose this design for his cabin. The sketchy evidence available about Horace Baker and Jane Hatton before they migrated to Oregon shows that Baker was born in Vermont and drifted to Marshall County, Illinois where he met his future wife. It is probable that Baker conceived the design of his cabin from similar structures he had seen east of the Mississippi River. In any event, the Baker Cabin is an important architectural example for Oregon.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Oregon Historical Society News, Vol. XIV, No. 3 (August 1970).

Woodward, V. Claire. "The Ethnohistory of Baker Cabin, A Clackamas County Pioneer Site", M.A. Thesis, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, 1975.

Lockley, Fred. "Impression and Observations of the Journal Man", Oregon Journal (October 8, 1926).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,0	53,9360	5,02,62,2,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Robert K. Sutton, Historian

ORGANIZATION

State Parks and Recreation Branch

DATE

July 1, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

525 Trade Street, SE

TELEPHONE

(503) 378-6118

CITY OR TOWN

Salem

STATE

Oregon

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

James S. Stalder 8/20/76

TITLE

State Parks Superintendent

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting

James H. [Signature]

DATE

12/12/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

12-6-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 13 1976
DATE ENTERED	DEC 12 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The traditional construction date for the Baker Cabin is 1856. Although there is no substantial documentation to support this date, family reports and records state that 1856 was the date of construction. This date was never challenged until V. Claire Woodward, in an M.A. thesis prepared for the Department of Anthropology at Portland State University, stated that the archeological evidence suggested that 1856 was not the date of construction but that it was probably built in the later 1870s. The evidence, however, is not impressive enough to suggest another probable date of construction, nor is it substantial enough to prove that 1856 was not the date of construction. Although the family records and reports are not conclusive or overwhelming, they appear to be more reliable and more substantial.

If the 1856 date is correct, the Baker Cabin would be one of the oldest log structures in Oregon, adding to its historical significance. The architectural uniqueness of the cabin and the importance of Horace Baker himself in the development of the area, however, make the Baker Cabin a significant cultural resource for the State of Oregon.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	SEP 13 1976
DATE ENTERED	DEC 12 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Beals, Barbara, ed. History of Clackamas County Land and the People. Oregon City, Oregon: 1972, p. 12.

Vaughan, Thomas and Ferriday, Virginia G., eds. Space, Style and Structure. Portland, Oregon: 1974.

Records, minutes and ephemera, Old Timers' Association of Oregon, Oregon City, Oregon.