100

United States Department of the InteriorNational 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.

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131011	ic name	S	COUT	LODGE					
her	names/site number _								
Loc	ation								,
eet	& number	27	78 SE <i>A</i>	Adams Av	enue			n/a	not for publication
	town	C	hehalis	S				n/a	vicinity
•	Washington	code	WA	_ county _	Lewis	code	041		•
State	e/Federal Agency Ce	ertification	on						
S	pinion, the propertym significant nationally Signature of certifying off MASHINGTON STATE HIS State or Federal agency a	_ statewide	RESERV	Date	ntinuation sheet fo	r additional c	comments	.)	- Considered
	n my opinion, the property additional comments.)		s doe			criteria. (See cont	nuation shee	et for
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SCOUT LODGE					CHEHALI	IS, WA
5. Classification						
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) private	Category of Property (Check only one box X building(s)	(Do no	ot incl. pre ibuting	viously lis	within Prop ted resources Contributing	in the count.)
X public-local	district					buildings
public-State	site					sites
public-Federal	structure		1			structures
	object		2			objects Total
Name of related multiple property list (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a m		Number of listed in the		_	esources pre ister	eviously
N/A		1 – Hillsi	de Histor	ric Distri	<u>ct</u>	
6. Functions or Use						
Historic Functions		Current F				
(Enter categories from instructions)	Cl. 1.1	(Enter cate			•	
Social: Meeting Hall/ Civic/	Clubnouse	Social: N	Meeting	Hall/C	Civic/Club	house
	(······································	
				•		
7. Description						
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter cate	•	m instruct	tions)	
OTHER: Rustic/National Pa	foundatio	n Cor	crete			
		walls <u>V</u>	Vood sh	ingle		
			Asta1			
			Metal			
		other _E	Brick			
	•					

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SCOUT LODGE	CHEHALIS, WA		
Statement of Significance			
pplicable National Register Criteria	Areas of Significance		
lark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the	(Enter categories from instructions)		
operty r National Register listing.)	ARCHITECTURE		
National Negister listing.)			
A Property is associated with events that have	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		
made a significant contribution to the broad patterns			
of our history.			
D. Danmark, in accominate distribution bisses of managers			
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	Period of Significance		
represents the work of a master, or possesses high	•		
artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack	1938		
individual distinction.			
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,			
information important in prehistory or history.			
riteria Considerations	Significant Dates		
Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	1938		
roperty is:			
A owed by a religious institution or used for			
religious purposes.			
, or grown parkets and	Significant Person		
B removed from its original location.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)		
and the state of t			
C a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation		
D a cemetery.	N/A		
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
F a commemorative property.			
	Architect/Builder		
G less than 50 years old or achieving significance	Unknown		
within the past 50 years.			
arrative Statement of Significance			
explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUA	TION SHEET		
Major Bibliographical References			
ibliography			
ite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form	m.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET		
and the state of t	Duine and leasting of additional date.		
revious documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:		
preliminary determination of individual listing	State Historic Preservation Office		
(36 CFR 67) has been requested	Other State agency		
previously listed in the National Register	X Federal agency Local government		
previously determined eligible by the National Register	University		
designated a National Historic Landmark	X Other		
#	Name of repository:		
recorded by Historic American Engineering	NARA, College Park, Maryland		
Record#			

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SCOUT L	ODGE							CHEHALIS, WA	
10. Geog	raphical	Data							
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containii	ng the S	cout Lodge a	and fire ring. The	e rectan	gle abu	its the fro	nt portion o	of the property	y .
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			associated v			U			O
1. Form	Prepared	d By			•				
name/title		ra Smith-Stei	ner						
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_						date			-
street & nu			eet, Suite 301			telephone	206 343 (······································	-
city or tow	n	Seattle			_ state	WA	zip code	98101	-
Additiona	l Docum	entation							
Submit the f	following ite	ems with the comp	eleted form:						
Continuat	tion She	ets							
Maps									
	USGS m	ар (7.5 or 15 m	ninute series) indicati	ng the pro	perty's	location.			
Α	Sketch r	nap for historic	districts and properti	ies havino	ı large a	creage or r	numerous reso	ources.	
			and property		, 3				
Photogra _l	phs								
Re	epresenta	ative black and	white photographs	s of the pr	operty.				
Additiona	ıl items								
		or FPO for any ac	dditional items.)						
Property (Owner /	Complete this iter	n at the request of the S	HPO or FP	0)				
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United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet - Sco

SCOUT LODGE
CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON

Section number	7	Page 1 of 2

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Scout Lodge is a small one and a half story social meeting hall sited on the northeast side of SE Adams Avenue in Dobson Park, City of Chehalis, Lewis County, Washington. Exterior dimensions of the building are 58' x 82'. Built between 1937 and 1938, the building retains its original park-like wooded setting, amid oaks and Douglas firs on a steeply sloping lot. The property is minimally landscaped with primary foundation plantings of holly and viburnum. A flagpole and Scout signage are sited in the front (west) yard. The street (west) side of the building has a low granite rubble retaining wall that continues around the gravel driveway. This wall has some structural damage. The north end of the retaining wall features a poured concrete stair that allows access from the street to the formal entryway.

The building itself stands on a poured concrete foundation and is surrounded by a narrow concrete walk and low concrete block retaining wall on the north and east facades. The cedar shingle rustic building is painted a dark brown with white trim and visually recedes into its setting. The gable roof, once covered in cedar shakes, was re-roofed ca. 1983 with brown raised seam metal.

The front façade of the building faces west and features a projecting gabled element whose central feature is a massive red brick chimney. The gable has four large square nine-light grouped casement sashes. The main entrance is situated at the northwest corner of the building and consists of a poured concrete stair and porch with railings. The wood double doors are simple two-panel doors with four pane windows.

The north façade is plain with asymmetrically organized casement windows in three styles. One set is a six-pane window, three are four-pane windows and one is a larger four-pane window.

The east façade features three sets of paired and four single casement windows. There are three exterior doors on this facade. The two-panel single doors have homemade screens. A poured concrete stair leads from the east walkway to the larger natural area at the top of the hill. A small lean-to has been added to the southeast corner of the building. It is used as a storage room and is in poor condition.

The south façade holds the common entry that is most easily accessed from the driveway. This shed-roof covered entry has a poured concrete stair and stoop. Two small lean-tos have been added to the right of the stoop. The larger is used for waste receptacles, while the smaller was probably used for coal storage. This façade features four small symmetrically placed fixed four-light casement windows and a security light fixture.

The common entryway opens to a small divided stair leading to the down to the basement level and the upstairs to the main meeting hall. The basement of the building was completely modernized within the last ten years and consists of one 22'x19' meeting room and a storage space.

The interior of the meeting hall is covered with rough pine paneling. The meeting hall occupies most of the space on the main floor. A small stage is located at the south end of the room. The stage has two false

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet - Sco

SCOUT LODGE
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Section number		Page 2 of 2
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United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet - Sco

SCOUT LODGE
CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON

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8

Page 1 of 3

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chehalis Scout Lodge meets National Register Criterion A for its associations with New Deal federal relief programs and as an example of the types of projects undertaken in local communities as part of these relief efforts. The building also meets National Register Criterion C as an intact example of rustic style architecture, the preferred architectural style promulgated by the federal government relief agencies for parks and campgrounds throughout the United States during the 1930s. The building exhibits numerous characteristics of the style, including a naturalistic setting, shingle siding, massive fireplace chimney, and multiple-light casement sash. Though somewhat altered by the addition of metal roofing, the building remains a fine example of the style and perhaps the finest example within the City of Chehalis.

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was a relief measure established in 1935 by executive order as the Works Progress Administration, and was redesigned in 1939 when it was transferred to the Federal Works Agency. As the largest agency of President Roosevelts New Deal relief program congress appropriation of \$4,880,000,000 to the 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, it 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 the WPA funded 30,000 to 50,000 workers from hundreds of communities. In Lewis County, jobs ranged from building trunk sewer lines to repairing library books, constructing golf courses, and serving hot lunches at rural schools. Highlighting the projects in Lewis County, Don Abel, State WPA Administrator, wrote in 1937:

"These men and women have given splendid cooperation and have surmounted many unusual and difficult problems in bringing workers and job together. They have readily visualized the needed public improvements that could be carried out in their respective communities, utilizing the available relief labor. They deserve the whole-hearted support of the citizenry for the lasting benefits they have brought into being in the form of improved roads, schools, houses, recreational grounds etc., which will be used by the entire population for many years to come" (Don Abel, State Administrator, Lewis County Advocate, May 6, 1937).

The Scout Lodge was part of a WPA project publicly announced in the Lewis County Advocate as part of a citywide park improvement project on February 23, 1937. Federal approval would bring \$47,000 to the City of Chehalis for projects in Alexander, Dobson and Henderson Parks and Millet Field. Local WPA records do not clearly indicated if the full amount of funding for this project was utilized.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet - Sco

SCOUT LODGE
CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON

Section number	8	Page 2 of 3

Dobson Park consisted of eighteen acres of land donated to the city in 1905 by local banker and philanthropist John Dobson. Dobson, a pioneer resident of Lewis County, was responsible for numerous public amenities in the City of Chehalis. Besides donating land for Dobson Park, where the Scout Lodge is located, he was a force behind the funding of local roads, a state reform school, and providing land for the city reservoir and various parklands. A noted Republican, Dobson was part owner of the Chehalis Land & Timber Company and the Coffman-Dobson National Bank of Washington. Dobson purchased and platted most of the land that is now the City of Chehalis.

The 1937 WPA project for Dobson Park focused on construction of "a recreation center for both Boy Scouts and the public. A cabin will be built for the Scouts, also an adequate place for the Scout council fires. The park will be graded and playground facilities will be constructed for the Scouts and public" (*Lewis County Advocate*, February 23, 1937).

Approval of the project was attributed to the efforts of city parks board chairman August E. Jaeger, who had been appointed to the board by the mayor on January 20, 1936 (Commissioners Proceedings, Vol. 10) and had worked for over a year to secure funding for the proposed improvements. Jaeger's attention promised to provide the city with one of the best-equipped park systems in the region.

Local newspapers reported various meeting places for the five Scout troops of Chehalis prior to construction of the Scout Lodge. These meeting places ranged from the Centralia High School Auditorium, to the basement of the First Methodist Church, City Hall, and the St. Helens Hotel.

On October 4, 1938, Kenneth Chase, then chairman of the Chehalis district Boy Scouts, announced the dedication ceremony for the "new Scout building" in *The Chehalis Advocate*. The ceremonies included a keynote address by Washington State Supreme Court Judge, George B. Simpson and a public inspection of the facility. Local representatives included the mayor, city commissioners, the American Legion, and the park board.

From at least 1941 to 1946, and possibly longer, the Scout Lodge had a live-in caretaker. Emrys Lewis and his wife Jenny, acted as caretaker/janitor for the facility, living in what is now the upstairs meeting room. Lewis also worked as the bus driver for the county welfare department while living at the Scout Lodge.

The Scouts have continually used the building since its construction in 1938. Though the building was designated as "the Scout building" it has also served as a meeting place for the larger community. Various groups have rented space in the building since its completion. From 1942 to 1951, the Assembly of God Church congregation met in the building on a weekly basis. Currently, the Civil Air Patrol occupies the basement.

The rustic style of architecture for the Scout Lodge is typical of public works projects promulgated by the federal government relief agencies for parks and campgrounds throughout the United States during the

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet – Sco

SCOUT LODGE
CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON

Section number	8	Page 3 of 3
		•

1930s and 40s. Federal, state and local governments used the design concept in many dining lodges, picnic shelters, tourist cabins, group camps, bath houses, comfort stations, restrooms, lookout shelters, entrance gates, stone bridges, and even park offices and administration and service buildings. Reffered to by many as "National Park Serive Rustic", the design concept is intended to have a stucture blend in with its surrounding environment in both a natural and cultural sense. Most of the structures in the style are simple in design and small in scale and were intended to be practical and efficient. The construction was to be straightforward with "no faking" of design details. Horizontal lines and low silhouettes were emphasized as well as colors such as warm browns to subordinate buildings in their settings. Many were constructed out of heavy timbers and stone which was obtained locally.

The Scout Lodge in Chehalis is a simplified version of the style as it was expressed in many small towns across the United States. Instead of logs and heavy stonework, cedar shingles were used to capture a natural look. The massive fireplace chimney, and multiple-light casement sash windows are typical elements of the style as expressed on small and large projects.

Today the Scout Lodge is maintained by the Chehalis Parks Department with occasional volunteer help from the civic groups that use it. The Lodge is included as a contributing resource in the Hillside Historic District of Chehalis.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet - Sco

SCOUT LODGE CHEHALIS, WASHINGTON

Section number

9

Page 1 of 1

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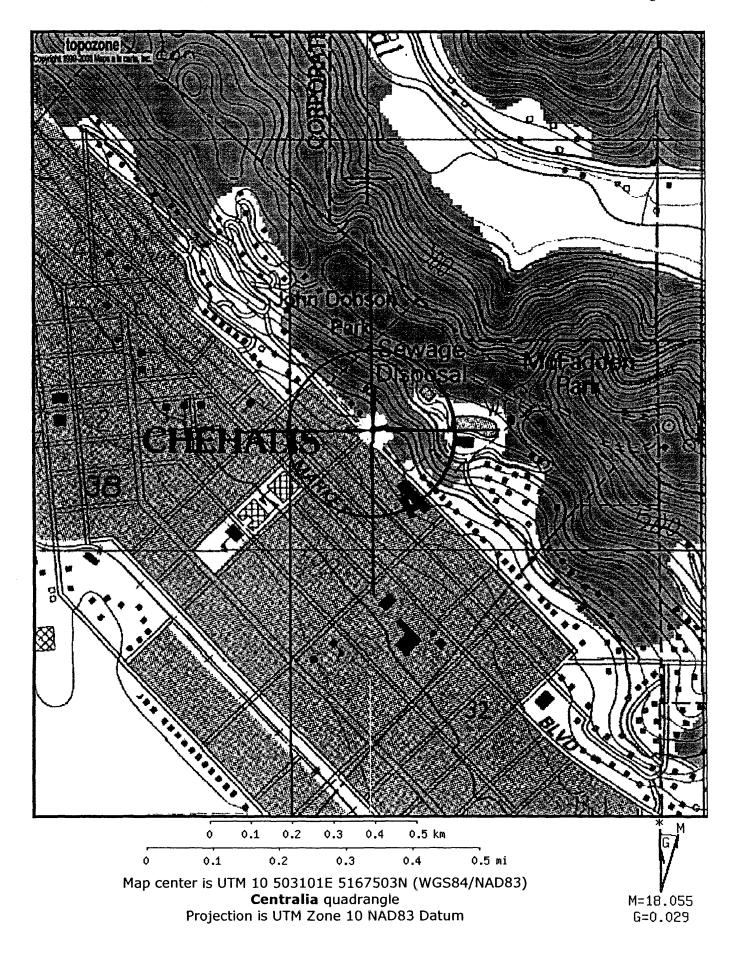
PHOTOGRAPHS

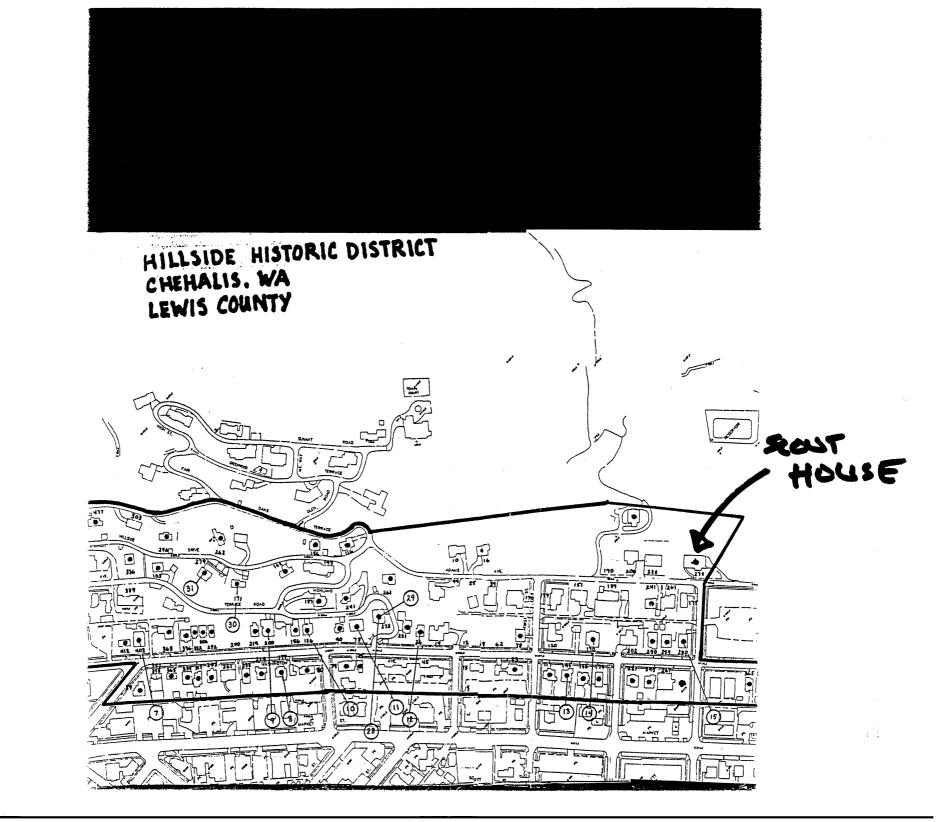
Archival prints

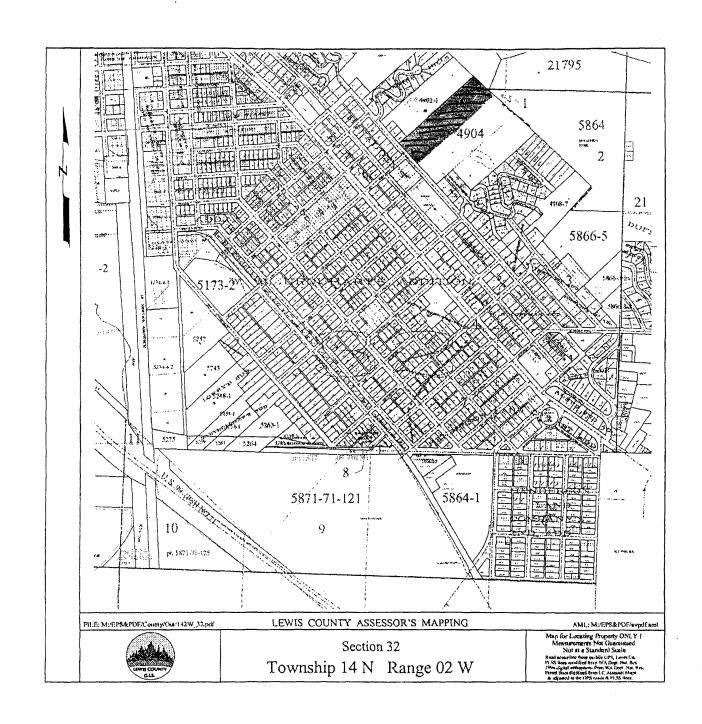
- 1. Context
- 2. West façade
- 3. North façade
- 4. East façade with topography
- 5. East façade
- 6. South façade
- 7. Stage, looking south
- 8. Benches, looking west
- 9. Main hall, looking north
- 10. Main hall, looking west
- 11. fire ring, looking west

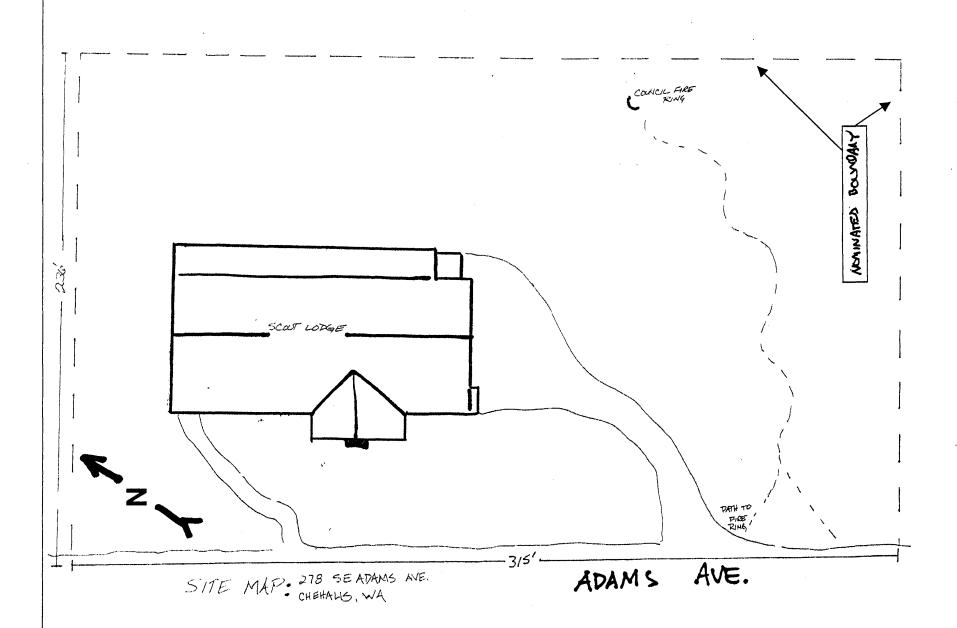
Color slides

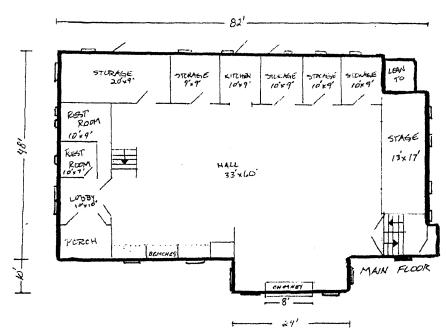
- 1. West façade
- 2. North façade
- 3. East façade
- 4. Looking notheast, south façade
- 5. Interior, stage
- 6. Interior, bench detail
- 7. Council fire ring

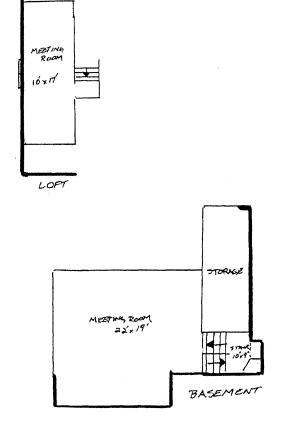














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