

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 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 10-900-a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Glenwood School
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number SE corner of NE 87th Ave. & NE 134th St. not for publication
city, town Glenwood vicinity
state Washington code WA county Clark code 011 zip code 98604

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing:
Rural Public Schools in Washington State

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Joseph E. [Signature] 12/16/91
Signature of certifying official Date
Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. *Helena [Signature]* 6/11/92
 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 of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education: school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in UseWork in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation wood; concretewalls wood: weatherboardroof wood: shingle

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Built as a one-room school in 1890 and expanded to its present form by 1913, the Glenwood School is a two-room schoolhouse in rural Clark County. The frame structure is located on a one-acre parcel at the southeast corner of the intersection of N.E. 87th Avenue and N.E. 134th Street and stands near a grove of tall fir trees, surrounded by the farmland of the unincorporated Glenwood community. The school has not been in regular use since the 1950s, and was allowed to deteriorate over the ensuing decades. But the structure retains basic integrity of form, fabric, and historic character, and is being rehabilitated by the present owner.

The school is a T-shaped building, measuring about 40 feet by 50 feet overall, and is composed of two gabled rectangular classroom wings that abut each other at right angles. The northern wing, believed to include the original structure, has a front facing pedimented gable end. Projecting from this west gable end is a shallow pedimented bay, crowned by a louvered belfry. A small open porch, sheltered by a shed roof supported by knee braces, is located on the north side of the bay. A panelled door provides entry to the north classroom.

Built perpendicularly to the north wing, the south classroom is a side gabled wing, terminating in a pedimented gable end on the south side. Spanning the west facade of the wing just below the cornice is an engaged hip roof which shelters a southwest square bay, housing offices, and an open front porch located at the juncture of the south wing and north bay. The porch shelters entry to the south classroom through panelled doors. The porch roof is ornamented with a central pediment, designating the formal entry to the school.

The Glenwood school is a balloon frame structure, constructed of milled lumber originally resting on a post and pier foundation (now with a continuous concrete foundation) and sheathed on the exterior in drop siding with cornerboard trim. The original roof shingles have been replaced with a new shingle roof. The gable roofs feature full returns, and are trimmed with boxed eaves that project slightly beyond the wall. Tall wood frame windows, with molded hoods and sills, are placed across the facade and banded along the classroom wings to provide illumination. The windows feature four-over-four double-hung sash, although some are boarded. The wood skirting that surrounds the building was partially destroyed, the porch floor was deteriorated, and the original wood porch steps have been removed. The current rehabilitation is restoring these features.

The interior of the Glenwood school includes 1,650 square feet, divided into two large classrooms joined by a common interior wall that was replaced by folding panels in the 1930s. Each room housed one of the two classroom divisions: the primary room for grades one through four, and the upper grade room,

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for classes five through eight. In addition to the classrooms, the interior includes an office and bathrooms. Although the structure has suffered deterioration of some fabric the original plan survives, as does the original tongue-and-groove wall and ceiling finishes and the window and door millwork trim.

8. Statement of Significance

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

 nationally statewide locallyApplicable National Register Criteria A B C DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Education

Period of Significance

1890-1941

Significant Dates

1890
c. 1910-1913

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Frank Cain, builder (c. 1913 remodel)

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

The Glenwood School is significantly associated with the history of public education and community life in a rural Clark County district. Built in 1890 as a one-room facility on land donated by the area's pioneer settlers, the school was expanded to its present form by 1913 to accommodate a rapidly growing student population. By the mid-1950s, however, the student body had declined and the school was closed in a consolidation of area districts. For most of the ensuing three decades the schoolhouse sat abandoned and deteriorating. But the building's characteristic features—its drop siding, pedimented gables, tall windows, and louvered belfry—continue to reflect its history as the educational and civic center of the Glenwood area. The schoolhouse meets the registration requirements established in the Rural Public Schools multiple property documentation form.

Historical Background: Public education in Clark County dates to the earliest years of Washington Territory. In 1852, county commissioners created six public school districts to serve the pioneer population. In contrast, the Glenwood district was established relatively late. The Glenwood area, located midway between Salmon Creek and Brush Prairie, was first settled by Gabriel and Jeannette Zimmerman, who left their Iowa home and arrived in Clark County in 1872. The Zimmermans settled a 160-acre homestead, built a log cabin (the first structure in the Glenwood area), and began to farm. For the next 17 years, children in the rural area travelled to schools in Vancouver.

But in 1889, area farmers banded together to start a local school in anticipation of creating an official district. This first school was held in a structure located next to the Zimmermans' brickyard. The following year, Glenwood School District 67 was formally established, and the Zimmerman family deeded one acre of land in the northwest corner of their farm at the intersection of two major roads, "so long as it shall be used for the site of a schoolhouse." By the start of the 1890 school year, a new frame structure had been built there. The small one-room schoolhouse served 21 students in the primary grades, taught by one teacher. School was held for three months that first year.

By the turn of the century, the area was described by the Vancouver newspaper as a "prosperous" dairy region. Local farmers organized the cooperative Glenwood Dairy Association in 1901, and started a successful cheese factory. In 1904, a branch line of the Northern Pacific railroad passed through the area (with a prefabricated depot in nearby Laurin) on its daily run from Vancouver to Yacolt.

The economic activity reflected general growth in the area, including an increasing school-age population. At the turn of the century, the student body included more than 40 students in grades one through eight,

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in addition to some pupils from other districts, like Barberton, Union, and Manor, who attended Glenwood because their schools were not held more than a few months each year. Although in the 19th century few students remained at Glenwood beyond the lower grades (choosing instead to go to schools in Vancouver), by 1900 more students attended the upper grades, and in 1904 Grace Zimmerman became the first Glenwood student to graduate from eighth grade. (The same spring that Grace took her eighth grade exam, her teacher was required to take an examination to re-established her teaching certificate, and Grace decided to take it also. "I passed very well," she recalled years later, "except in school law and theory and practice.")

With more students (particularly in the upper grades) the district decided about 1910 to remodel and expand the one-room school. By 1913, the original hip roof structure had been dramatically enlarged to include a complete new wing, a front bay, and pedimented gable roofs with a belfry. In January, 1914, the finishing touches were being put on the remodelled building by carpenter Frank Cain.

The new schoolhouse was large enough to divide the eight grades into two divisions, or classrooms—with one teacher instructing grades one through four, and the other teaching grades five through eight. Over the next few decades, the student body included as many as 70 children. During those years, the school was a close-knit community institution: in lean times, students provided their own books, teachers paid for instructional aids, and parents, especially the Mothers Club, provided much needed assistance. Throughout the period, Christmas pageants and spring festivals were held at the school. In fact, these community events were so popular that the wall separating the classrooms was replaced by a sliding partition to accommodate the large crowds.

During the Depression years, the school survived through voluntary community assistance. "There was almost no library, no reference books, no globe, few wall maps, no current reading materials, no playground equipment, and few grade room aids," remembered one teacher from the period. But there was an organ, and the community continued to provide whatever else was needed.

To insure good meals for the students, a cook was hired through a federal grant; but the school benefitted even more from the generosity of the Yoshiko Kosobayashi family, Japanese-American farmers who daily donated crates of fresh vegetables to the school during the Repression years. In fact, the Kosobayashi family—whose American-born children attended Glenwood School— often provided special ice cream treats for students, and even donated free pencils and notebooks at the start of each school year. "Is it any wonder," recalled a teacher, "that we were all grieved when after the Japanese bombed our ships on December 7, 1941, our friends were sent ...to a concentration camp at Tule Lake?"

Before the family left, the Glenwood community gathered at the Kosobayashi home for a surprise farewell party. The teachers and students presented them with a blanket for their journey, and sang

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“God be with you until we meet again.” The next day, Glenwood teacher Violet Betts drove the family to the Vancouver depot, and watched as the train pulled away. The family lost their farm, spent the war years at a camp in Idaho, and never returned to their Clark County home. (Near the end of the war, one Kosobayashi son joined the American Army, studied at an Army linguistics program in Minnesota, and was sent to Tokyo where he provided counsel to Japanese charged with war crimes.) After the war, the family relocated in Minnesota and California. Yet thirty years later, reflecting on his years in Glenwood, a Kosobayashi child remembered that “we were engulfed in a real sense of belonging. I don’t think I’ve ever experienced the same feeling again.”

In the post-war years, the student population—which had grown so rapidly in the first decades of the century—declined. In July 1955, the Glenwood and adjacent Barberton districts voted to consolidate with the Battle Ground school district, and in the middle of the 1956-57 school year, the old Glenwood School was closed and students were transferred to the newly consolidated Glenwood Heights School. Except for a brief period in 1961, the school has remained closed, and in 1977 the property reverted to the ownership of the adjacent property owner, in accordance with the original Zimmerman deed. Despite serious deterioration and vandalism, the basic form, and much of the original fabric and historic character of the school has been retained, and the property is being rehabilitated by the current owner.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical Committee, Glenwood/Laurin PTA, *Seven Bells Did Ring: A History of [the Seven Schools That Consolidated to Form] Battle Ground School District 119* (Vancouver, 1971).
B.F. Alley, *Illustrated History of Clarke County, Washington Territory* (Portland, 1885).
Bob Beck, "Glenwood School: 90 Year Old Building Typical of Old-Fashioned One-Room Rural School," *Vancouver Columbian* (May 1, 1980).

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 Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property one

UTM References

A 10 532540 5062620
Zone Easting Northing

C
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

D
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is a one acre parcel described thusly: Beginning at the southeast corner of the intersection of NE 87th Avenue and NE 134th Street, proceed south along the east curb of NE 87th for 200 feet; turn 90° and proceed north to NE 134th Street; proceed west along south curb of NE 134th Street to the point of beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Glenwood School.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Leonard Garfield
organization Archaeology & Historic Preservation
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city or town Olympia state Washington

date November 4, 1991
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