

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

FEB 16 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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.

1. Name of Property

historic name Snoqualmie School Campus  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Silva and King Streets  not for publication  
city, town Snoqualmie  vicinity  
state Washington code WA county King code 033 zip code 98063

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u> objects
			<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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.

[Signature] 2/7/89  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Washington State Office of Archaeology & 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.  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] 3/16/89  
Entered in the National Register Date of Action

[Signature] \_\_\_\_\_  
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)

EDUCATION: education-related

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls concrete

wood: weatherboard

roof other: composition

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Snoqualmie School Campus is situated in the Town of Snoqualmie several blocks southwest of the historic railroad station (National Register, 1974). The campus consists of five buildings: the original schoolhouse (1911), the gymnasium (1915), the industrial arts building (1920), a non-historic restroom building, and a small, historic vehicle shed (c. 1920). Two additional structures, a classroom building and an auditorium, have been demolished. The remaining structures have not been significantly altered externally and they present an image little changed from their historical appearance. Interiors have been altered to accommodate current functions, most noticeably the ground floor of the school building, which now houses the local school district's administrative offices. The gymnasium is now used for storage and the industrial arts building serves as the district's bus maintenance facility. Except for the demolition of two major elements of the complex, the campus retains its historical setting and relationships.

The earliest building of the complex, constructed in 1911, is a two-story hipped roof schoolhouse with a large square tower serving as a focal point at the east facade. The plan is rectangular, 50 feet by 45 feet, with a slightly projecting central bay that rises three stories to form a bell tower. At the ground floor, which lies slightly below grade, walls of poured concrete are refined by narrow recessed horizontal bands, giving the impression of a rusticated base. A recessed porch under a wide flat arched opening protects the main entry although the door has been replaced. The second story is clad frame, clad with beveled siding. Corner pilasters with simple bases and vestigial capitals, a plain frieze under a moulded cornice with dentil row, and tall open arcades on three sides of the tower give the building a restrained Classical Revival appearance.

Groups of five tall one over one double-hung windows punctuate much of the wall surface on the east and west elevations and provide substantial light to the classrooms at the four corners of the interior. Similar windows appear singly on the north and south elevations. The hip roof, as well as the pyramidal roof of the tower, is now, covered with composition roofing material, replacing the original wood shingles.

The interior of the ground floor has been altered to change its use from classrooms to offices. The central stairway has been removed and the only access to the upper floor is now, provided by an exterior stairway at the rear. Some of the original interior walls and millwork remain, but the room configurations are changed and modern partition walls, wall surfacing and millwork are new. However, the second floor retains the original room configurations and much of the original wall surfacing and millwork. A modern heating system has been installed on this level and pipes and heating ducts encircle the floor, passing through interior walls and hindering clear passage through the spaces.

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Located a few yards to the southeast of the schoolhouse, the gymnasium is a two story frame structure built on a T-shaped plan, with a projecting front gabled wing and a recessed perpendicular hipped roof wing. A pedimented one-story entry hall extends from the center of the front (east) facade of the front gable, and one-story shed roof extensions (housing locker rooms) are built along the south side and rear of the hipped roof wing. The exterior of the gymnasium is sided with shingles, laid in courses of alternating width, with a beltcourse between the first and second stories, a molded cornice, and corner boards. The roof is sheathed with composition shingles. Windows in the structure are multi-light wood sash in the upper story (illuminating the playing court), with smaller multi-light windows along the lower walls. The windows are framed with plain architraves. The exterior retains nearly complete integrity with the exception of a few windows which have been boarded over. The interior of the gymnasium includes a large court surrounded by permanent bleachers. Locker rooms are built along the side walls.

Directly to the rear (west) of the schoolhouse is the manual arts shop. The shop building is a side-gabled structure built on a rectangular plan. The shop is well lighted on the first floor with large double hung multi-light sash. Additional light is provided by the band of multi-light windows in the shed roof dormer which projects from the north slope of the roof. A large multi-light window with triangular head is placed in the upper walls of the side gables. The rear facade is enclosed with large wood sash windows, and a shed is built along the north side of the structure. The interior of the shop has been altered to accommodate the bus garage and includes a concrete floor.

Also on the property is a historic gable-roofed, shingle-sided shed that appears to have been a historic garage, and a recently constructed one story gabled restroom facility immediately to the rear of the schoolhouse which does not contribute to the historical significance of the property. The school buildings are surrounded by large, grass-covered playing fields and lawns.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Education  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1911-1920  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1911, 1915,  
c. 1920  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Olaf Hanson, architect  
N.P. Olson, builder  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

The Snoqualmie School Campus is significantly associated with the history of education in the Snoqualmie Valley, illustrating the expansion and diversity of public schools in the early 20th century. Built in 1911, the schoolhouse is the centerpiece of the campus, an architecturally imposing structure that was the first substantial (and oldest extant) schoolhouse in the area, accommodating both primary and secondary school curriculums (including the first full high school program). Moreover, the school served as the nucleus for an educational complex that eventually included a gymnasium (1915) and a manual training shop (c. 1920), as well as a later high school and auditorium (now demolished). The campus group is among the best preserved collections of educational buildings from the period in eastern King County, and an evocative reminder of the rapid growth of public education during the period.

Historical Background: Located in the Snoqualmie River valley of eastern King County, the town of Snoqualmie was platted (as Snoqualmie Falls) in 1889, and developed as a service center for the surrounding farming, lumbering, and mining districts. In the 1880s, the local economy was dominated by hops, but in ensuing years, lumber mills, diary farms, and the railroad brought people and business to the area.

The first common school in the Snoqualmie area was established in 1884 when 15 year-old Lulu Thompson taught class in a converted hops warehouse in a field outside the townsite. Shortly after it was platted in 1889, however, the town of Snoqualmie established its own district--No. 89--and held classes in a former bunkhouse and laundry near the river and railroad tracks. The school was soon replaced by a two story structure located closer to the center of town, which was subsequently moved and converted to a residence. A third frame schoolhouse was started in 1902 in the old town hall (and later razed).

In 1903, Snoqualmie was incorporated, and, by 1906, with a growing population, the district decided to expand and upgrade its facilities. That year, the schoolboard voted to find new property and in 1907 made plans to discontinue classes at the existing schoolhouse. In March, 1908, after much community debate, the district paid \$250 to Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Talbott for ten lots in a residential neighborhood just west of downtown. Located at the juncture of King and Silva streets, the lots would be the site of the district's new campus.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Annual Reports to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1910-1920, State Archives, Olympia.  
Bagley, Clarence. History of King County (Seattle: S.J. Clarke, 1929).  
Hill, Ada. History of Snoqualmie Valley (Snoqualmie, 1970).  
Our Snoqualmie Community, 1855-1956 (Snoqualmie, Snoqualmie Community Development Program, 1956).

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property about 3 acres

Quadrangle Name: Snoqualmie Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	0
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5	8	8	2	9	0
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5	2	6	4	3	9	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 11-20, Block 28, Tour of Snoqualmie.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel associated with the Snoqualmie School Campus.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Shirley Courtois; historical statement revised by Leonard Garfield

organization Office of Archy & Historic Preservation date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11 telephone (206) 753-4011

city or town Olympia state Washington zip code 98504

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Shortly after the site was purchased, District No. 89 was consolidated with District No. 126 in the neighboring Tokul Creek mill community. Prior to consolidation, the Tokul Creek district had a one-room schoolhouse where one teacher conducted class for a student body whose members ranged from first through eighth grades. But in 1911, after consolidation, the Tokul Creek district discontinued its school and sent the children to Snoqualmie.

In March, 1911, voters in the new district (No. 174) approved a \$12,000 bond to finance construction of a large new schoolhouse at the King Street site. It was the first substantial school structure ever built in the community, and the district retained architect Olaf Hanson and contractor N.P. Olson to carry out the project. The new school, completed in 1912 at a cost of \$11,285, was a two-story structure, with a rusticated concrete ground story, a frame upper story sided with clapboards, and a handsome belltower rising above the building. (The new property also included a teacher's cottage, since demolished, which apparently served as a residence for long-time school clerk John Lawson.)

The new school allowed the Snoqualmie district to offer an expanded curriculum. In 1910, for example, the district had two teachers and two departments (or classroom divisions) which included all students through the 10th grade level; the Tokul district had only a single classroom. When complete, the new schoolhouse served about 100 students, offered an expanded curriculum with four departments including lower and upper primary levels and lower and upper secondary levels (including 13 high school students), taught by four teachers. By 1914, the school district enrolled 117 students including its first 12th grade class (with four pupils), had five departments, and employed a fifth teacher.

The large schoolhouse was well suited to accommodate the expanded curriculum, with four rooms on each floor and a large playfield. But further expansion was soon necessary. In 1915, a \$15,000 gymnasium was built immediately to the rear of the schoolhouse, reflecting an increased concern with physical education during the Progressive Era. In addition to providing students with an opportunity for physical activity and athletics, the gymnasium served as a community center, with a variety of events held in the large arena, according to the newspapers of the day.

In the fall of 1917, the district hired its first manual training teacher (who set up his first shop in the gym building) and by 1920, a fully equipped industrial arts shop was constructed, reflecting the growing diversification of the curriculum.

More pressure on the school district, however, required even more classroom space. In 1914, the Snoqualmie Falls mill was established and the mill community soon led to an increase in the Snoqualmie district student population. In 1916, for example, the district had 121 students; just two years later, the district enrolled 185 students. As a result of that growth, the district passed a \$30,000 bond issue in 1919, followed by a second \$35,000 bond in 1922, to finance construction (in two phases) of a large new high school facility adjacent to the existing school. When construction was complete, the 1911 Snoqualmie school became an elementary school, and upper level students were sent to the new building next door.

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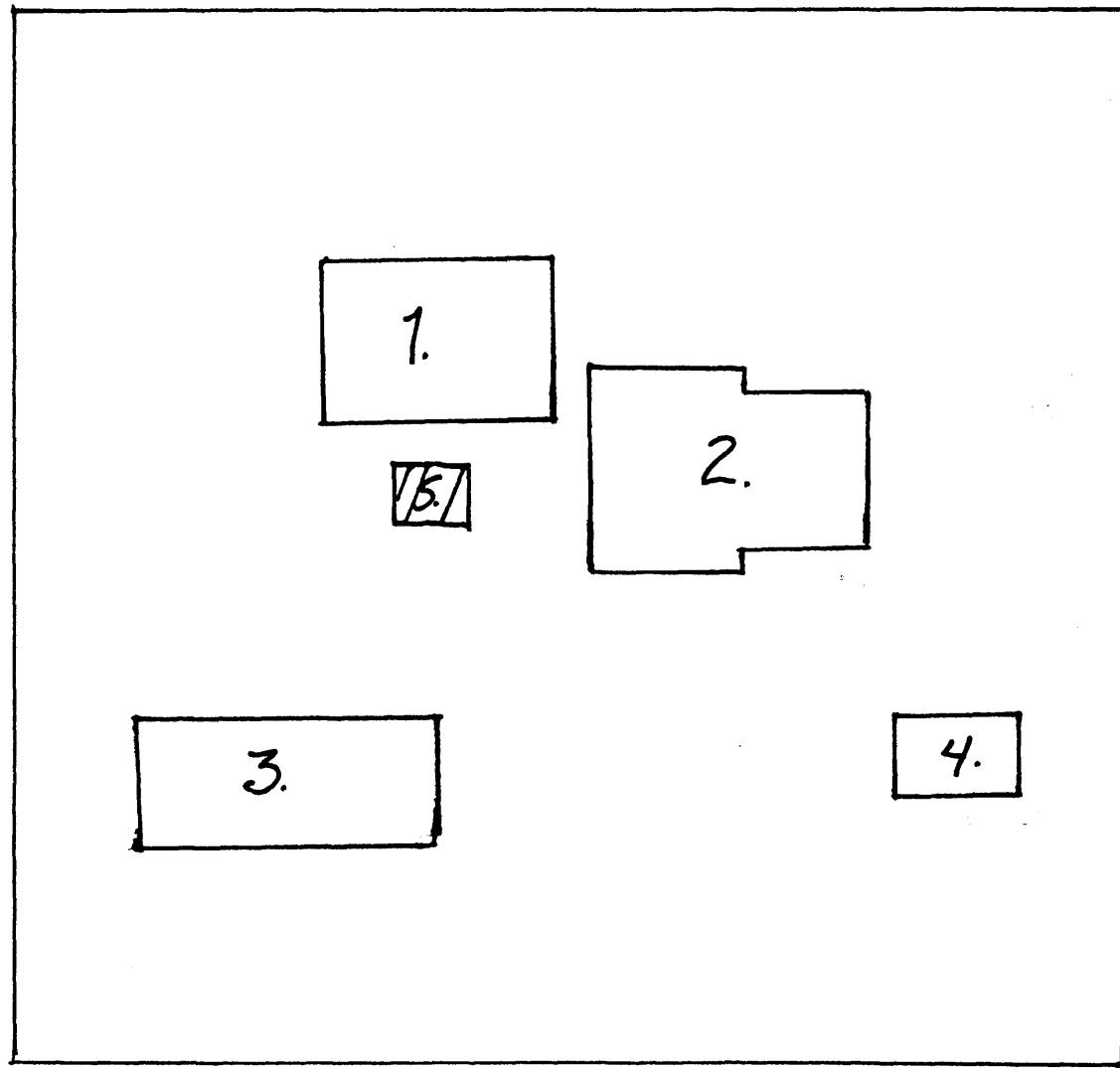
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Snoqualmie schools were reorganized again in 1944 when three area districts--Snoqualmie, Fall City, and North Bend--were consolidated into the new Snoqualmie Valley District No. 410. It was the first time in state history that a consolidation occurred between three districts with accredited high school programs. To handle the influx of new students, the 1911 Snoqualmie School was used again for high school students (with kindergarten housed upstairs) while elementary students were sent elsewhere. Finally, in 1953, the new Mt. Si High School was built at a campus on the southeastern edge of town, and elementary school students returned to the old Snoqualmie School, where class was held until the late 1960s. Since then, Snoqualmie Valley School District No. 410 has used the schoolhouse for administrative offices, the gymnasium for storage, and the industrial arts shop as a bus garage. The 1920-era high school and auditorium have been demolished.

Today, the 1911 schoolhouse and surviving ancillary structures provide a rare illustration of the growing complexity of public school systems in the early 20th century. From a two-room schoolhouse in 1910, the Snoqualmie district constructed an architecturally imposing new facility, with sufficient space for both lower and upper level students, and soon followed with construction of a large gymnasium and an industrial arts shop. The complex retains good integrity and is the most important historic educational complex in the Snoqualmie Valley.

SNOQUALMIE SCHOOL CAMPUS, Snoqualmie, King Co., WA

NA



- 1. Schoolhouse (Contributing)
- 2. Gymnasium (Contributing)
- 3. Industrial Training Building (Contributing)
- 4. Garage Building (Contributing)
- 5. Restroom Building (Noncontributing)

NOT TO SCALE