

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received FEB 9 1987

date entered MAR 13 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Pomeroy Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 20902 N.E. Lucia Falls Rd. not for publication

city, town Yacolt vicinity of

state Washington code 053 county Clark code 011

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	n/a	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Pomeroy/Plowman Ranch, Ltd.

street & number 20902 N.E. Lucia Falls Rd.

city, town Yacolt vicinity of state Washington 98675

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Clark County Courthouse

street & number 1200 Franklin St.

city, town Vancouver state Washington 98660

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

1) Washington State Inventory of Cultural Resources
title 2) Clark County Heritage Register has this property been determined eligible? yes no

1) 1984
date 2) 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records 1) Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
2) Heritage Trust of Clark County
city, town 1) 111 W. 21st Ave., Olympia Washington 98504-5411
2) P.O. Box 5000, Vancouver state Washington 98668-5000

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	The Blacksmith Shop was moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date in 1911. See items 7 and 8
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			for discussion.

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Pomeroy Farm is, in its entirety, a 677 acre site located in northeastern Clark County approximately three miles southwest of the small town of Yacolt. The four acre parcel in the nomination represents the heart of the farmstead and includes a log house constructed in 1920 and 13 outbuildings constructed between 1900 and 1940. The farmstead is located on Lucia Falls Road just north of the East Fork of the Lewis River, an area still sparsely settled and still reflecting farm life in Clark County during the early years of this century.

Contributing Resources

The Log House: Constructed in 1920 and facing south to the road, the main house is a two story, side-gabled, rectangular structure with first story constructed of logs felled on the property, and a frame second story sheathed with drop siding salvaged from a dismantled tavern in Vancouver. The exterior face of the logs are rounded with square notching at the corners. A shed-roofed porch--the roof of which is interrupted by a central gable--stretches across the length of the facade. The main central entry is sheltered beneath the porch. Above the porch, a shed-roofed wall dormer projects from the front room of the second story. The house sits on the original foundation of river rock (now supplemented with concrete).

The roof has been covered with composition shingles. Shallow open eaves expose two-by-four rafter tails. To the rear of the west elevation, a small shed-roofed porch covers the back door.

Fenestration is almost regular with four one-over-one double hung and two small stationary single-lighted windows in each gable end; two one-over-one double hung windows on the first floor of the facade; and two pairs of four-lighted casement windows in the wall dormer on the second story. There is a matching pair of casements in the center of the second floor on the rear elevation and a single stationary light on the west side of the rear elevation. A screened cooling window protrudes from the center of the first story of the rear elevation.

The house is stained red. The chinking between the logs is a mortar made of cement, sand, and aluminum powder. Window and door surrounds are of simple flat boards. Front porch supports are logs connected by a log railing. Back porch supports are hand chamfered timbers. Two chimneys rise from either end of the gable roof. One is a remnant of an earlier (1915) house which was built just prior to construction of the present house.

The interior of the house reflects a traditional massed plan--two rooms wide and two rooms deep divided by a central hall and stair. The second floor has a central fifth room in the front under the dormer. Walls are paper or cloth-covered planks, floors are planks of old growth fir chinked with paper mache, and trim is very simple. All molding was hand planed by planes still on display in the blacksmith shop. A large fireplace in the living room is surrounded by a fir mantelpiece.

Barn: The large dairy/horse barn sits on an east-west axis on the western perimeter of the nominated four acres. It is a large 40 by 60 foot timber framed structure with a high, slightly double pitched gable roof which sweeps from a height of 35 feet to eight feet above the ground at the eaves. The eastern front gable has a protruding peak at the apex. The roof has been covered with corrugated metal.

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The barn sits on large log and squared timber sills. It is sided with unpainted vertical planks. Openings are irregular: there are a number of swinging hinged doors in either gable end and each side elevation has four small four-lighted stationary windows.

The interior is divided into three major sections by the log and squared timber frame of the barn. The large central space is open and the side sections are divided into feeding stalls. The barn houses a variety of old equipment associated with horses and cattle. It was built in the 1930s by Thomas Pomeroy.

Granary: To the east of the barn stands a small shed-roofed granary of unpainted vertical planks anchored to a plank floor attached to log sills. The interior is divided into five bins. One of the oldest buildings on the farm, the granary is believed to have been built around 1915.

The Blacksmith Shop: The oldest building on the Pomeroy Farm, the blacksmith shop was built near the turn of the century and was originally used as a millhouse for workers at the Lucia Mill one mile east of Pomeroy Farm. In 1910, it was converted for use as the first Lucia School and in 1911 it was moved to the farm.

It is a square, gable-roofed frame structure sided randomly with unpainted vertical planks and boards and battens. It now sits on new concrete piers, but has a dirt floor which accommodated the smithy. Openings are irregular and random: swinging barn doors open from the west side; swinging doors, two window openings and an attic door open from the south gable end; there are two stationary horizontal eight-lighted windows on the east side; and a swinging door in the north end. The gabled roof is covered with corrugated metal. The second floor serves as a museum exhibiting tools. Originally, Pomeroy used the upper floor as a cobbler's garrett and there cobbled shoes for his entire family.

The Old Chicken Coop: Near the center of the nominated parcel in a thicketed area of overgrowth sits the old chicken coop, built about 1915. It is a long, rectangular, wood frame building approximately 18 by 30 feet. The roof is a low pitched gable covered with corrugated metal and the foundation is of randomly coursed unmortared river rock. The siding is unpainted horizontal drop siding.

Separator Shed: Further to the northwest of the office stands the separator shed built by E.C. Pomeroy's son Thomas. It is a gable roofed rectangular structure oriented on an east-west axis. The structure is framed with a haphazard system of uprights and braces, some of milled lumber and others of logs. Vertical planks serve as siding; three elevations are partially open. Large doors open into the east end. The roof has been covered with corrugated metal. The shed protects old horsedrawn farm equipment: a seeder, a cultivator, a disc plow, a mower, and a binder.

Storage/Machine Sheds: To the southwest of the barn sits three storage/machine sheds. Two are simple gable-roofed wood structures which sit at right angles to each other. The two older sheds, which date from the 1930s, have corrugated metal roofs and plank siding.

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Noncontributing Resources

Gift Shop (formerly carriage house): The gift shop, which sits immediately north of the house, is a 32 by 36 foot two story rectangular building. The north three-quarters of the building has a flat roof but the remaining structure is sheltered by the original gable roof which covered the building when it served as a carriage house. Expansion of the carriage house in 1976 created a larger building which is sided with red stained horizontal lap siding. Fenestration is irregular and sliding aluminum frame windows of varying size have been installed.

Office: To the north of the gift shop sits the office, a simple one story 20 by 30 foot building with a gently pitched gable roof. The office is sided with unpainted vertical siding and roofed with composition roofing. There are two doors, one in either gable end, and irregular fenestration of sliding aluminum windows of varying sizes.

The New Chicken Coop: Southeast of the barn and southwest of the granary stands an eight by eight foot chicken coop built in 1976. The new structure blends with the older farm structures. It is a square shaped structure sided with unpainted vertical planks. It has two small stationary windows and one door. The roof has recently been covered with hand split shakes.

Outhouse, woodshed, and machine shed: To the south of the old chicken coop sits two new but compatible structures: a reconstructed wood frame outhouse with shed roof of hand split shake and a shed-roofed woodshed with attached lean-to. The woodshed has composition roofing and unpainted vertical wood siding. One machine shop/shed is nonhistoric. It is sided with boards and batten with shed roof. The presence of the several nonhistoric farm structures does not obscure the historic character of the farmstead.

The site: The 677 acres of the present farm include the original 160 acre claim of E.C. Pomeroy and the half-section purchased by his son-in-law Charles Plowman. The four acre parcel included in this nomination is a flat area lying between the east fork of the Lewis River to the south and the forested hills to the north. It is an area made up of both open fields that reflect the original farmstead and wooded thickets overgrown with fir, oak, alder, wild cherry, vine maple, wild hazelnut, blackberries, and ferns. The area immediately around the house and gift shop has been cultivated; there are expanses of lawn, flower beds, and a fine large English herb garden on the grounds. Fruit trees planted by E.C. Pomeroy still bear fruit. This portion of the farm is open to the public as a living history museum and exemplifies single family farming operations in the remote regions of southwestern Washington in the early years of the 20th century. A parking lot to the east of the house and gift shop detracts slightly from the historic character of the farmstead. The surrounding farmstead is planted in hay and has parcels of timber and open range.

Boundary justification: The nominated acreage includes the heart of the historic farmstead and includes the principal buildings and auxiliary structures that evolved between 1910 and the late 1930s. The acreage also includes a small portion of the original fields, orchard, and gardens which reflect the original landscape elements of the

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farmstead. The extensive acreage which surrounds the core farmstead is not included in the nomination because it represents an enlargement of the original Pomeroy Farm and is under active cultivation which may not reflect the historic character of the farm.

Contributing Resources: Contributing resources are structures which relate to the period of significance and have maintained integrity:

House: 1
Barn: 1
Granary: 1
Separator Shed: 1
Blacksmith Shop: 1
Old Chicken Coop: 1
Storage Shed/Machine Shed: 2
Total: 8

Noncontributing Resources: Noncontributing resources are structures built after the period of significance or historic structures which do not maintain their historic character (i.e. gift shop/former carriage house):

Gift Shop (Carriage House): 1
Office: 1
New Chicken Coop: 1
Outhouse: 1
Woodshed: 1
Storage/Machine Shed: 1
Total: 6

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

period of significance:
Specific dates 1910 - 1937 **Builder/Architect** E.C. Pomeroy, Thomas Pomeroy

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Pomeroy Farm is a historically significant agricultural complex associated with the early settlement and later development of the Lucia Valley in northern Clark County. The property, which includes a historic log house, barn, granary, and blacksmith shop, is among the best preserved collections of subsistence farm buildings in the county and has been opened to the public as a living history museum. When E.C. Pomeroy, his wife Adelaide, and their four children moved to the Lucia Valley in 1910, the area was a rugged, isolated frontier, relying exclusively on logging and subsistence farming. The Pomeroy Farmstead, representative of the pioneer experiences of thousands in the region, reflects the family's attempts to earn a livelihood from the land, establish educational opportunities for their children, build roads, and make the primitive settlement a permanent home. Today, the fifth generation of the family lives on the farm. The buildings have been maintained or restored to nearly original condition, and the landscape of the nominated property reflects the farmstead's historic character.

Erwin Charles Pomeroy, born to an immigrant English schoolmaster in Hastings, Canada, in 1852, ran away to Detroit, Michigan, at the age of nine. After learning the blacksmith trade, he moved to Ellensburg, Washington, where he bought part of a thoroughbred horse business. Fire brought that enterprise to an end and he moved to Centerville where he set up a smithy and also worked as a fireman on the railroad to Portland, Oregon.

In 1884, Pomeroy married English immigrant Adelaide Jane Carr who had moved to southern Oregon with her family at age seven. For the next 26 years, the Pomeroy family moved from place to place throughout Oregon where E.C. bought run-down farms, improved them, and sold them. During these years of itinerancy, Adelaide bore six children, the first of whom died as an infant.

In 1910, the family made its seventh and final move to southwestern Washington where E.C. bought 160 acres of land along the east fork of the Lewis River from William H. Wahl. But before the family moved to Washington from Oregon, the entire valley—including the newly purchased house and barn—burned in the great 1910 forest fire. As a result, the Pomeroy family was forced to spend their first Washington winter (in a region which averages 77 inches of rainfall annually) in a tent. A new house was built on a site 300 yards northwest of the present Pomeroy house and the family settled in.

Aside from the small millworker community that grew around the Lucia sawmill (a mile upriver from the farm), the valley was sparsely settled when the Pomeroy family arrived. Nevertheless, E.C. felt the need for a school for his youngsters and he petitioned the county superintendent for a teacher to come to the remote area. As a result, the first school in the valley was opened in 1910 in a former millhouse at Lucia Mill. When a more permanent school building was erected the next year, Pomeroy moved the old millhouse to his farm and used it as a smithy and cobbler's workshop.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Allworth, Louise M., comp. Battle Ground...In and Around, Taylor Publishing Company, Dallas, Texas, 1976.

Clarke County Personal Property Tax Records, 1914, 1919, Clark County Historical Museum, Vancouver, Washington.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property approx. 4.5

Quadrangle name Yacolt

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	0	5	4	2	1	4	0	5	0	7	6	2	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

1	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	5	0	7	6	2	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

1	0	5	4	1	9	9	0	5	0	7	6	3	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

1	0	5	4	2	1	2	0	5	0	7	6	3	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	n/a	code	county	code
	n/a			

state	n/a	code	county	code
	n/a			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janice W. Rutherford and Robert Brink

Edited by Leonard Garfield
Archaeology & Hist. Pres.

organization Heritage Trust of Clark County

date August 15, 1986

street & number P.O. Box 5000

telephone 206/699-2359

city or town Vancouver

state Washington 98668-5000

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

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1/28/87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 3-13-87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Pomeroy was also instrumental in getting the first road built up the valley. Until he and neighbors F.M. Kettenring and William P. Plowman petitioned the county for a road from the Heisson Bridge to Lucia, transportation in and out of the valley was almost exclusively by rail. The railroad ran five trains a day in 1910, primarily to transport logs out of the Yacolt burn area. By 1915, when rail service had slowed to three trains a day, Pomeroy recognized the importance of the new road he secured along the riverbank and he moved his house to the present house site so that he would have easy access to transportation. Completion of the road meant regular mail service for valley residents.

A smallpox epidemic in 1920 precipitated yet another fire which was to take the Pomeroy's home a second time. Burning infected bedding and clothes at the farm, a visiting nurse inadvertently allowed a spark from her fire to ignite the roof of the house. Only Adelaide and one of her daughters was home at the time of the blaze and the house burned to the ground leaving only the fireplace and chimney standing. E.C. and son Thomas built the present log house on the same site, felling the trees themselves and hewing and planing the timbers on the farm. In the ensuing years, the Pomeroy's raised several crops (mostly hay), had dairy cows, and a small orchard. To accommodate the farm activities, the Pomeroy's built a large barn and related agricultural structures necessary for a subsistence farm.

When E.C. Pomeroy died in 1934, his son Thomas and daughter Henrietta carried on and ran the farm. Henrietta married in the 1940s and moved from the farm, but returned with her husband following Thomas' death in 1968. Lillie Plowman Freese, E.C.'s granddaughter (and daughter of his daughter Angelina and neighbor Charles Plowman), established a British gift shop in the old log house in 1972. An Anglophile herself, Mrs. Freese and her family felt the shop continued important traditions of her two British grandparents. The old carriage house behind the house was expanded to accommodate the gift shop in 1975.

Today, the family farm has been incorporated as the Pomeroy-Plowman Ranch, Ltd., and the farm serves as a living history museum with gift shop. Tours of the property are conducted by costumed volunteers and a variety of activities, including teas, classes in home crafts, hay rides, and cider pressing are offered. The family plans to enhance the living history aspect of the farm and to continue to restore the resources as authentically as possible.

The Pomeroy Farm is the only extant example of an early diversified subsistence farm in the Lucia area. The Washington State Resource Protection Planning Process (RP3) has identified subsistence farming as a significant and discrete phase of development on the rural frontier, occurring in most places at initial settlement (often as late as the 1880s and 1890s in remote areas). Because of the remoteness of the Lucia Valley and the strong hold of logging, the Pomeroy Farm represents one of the last areas of subsistence farming in western Washington. The log house and timber and plank farm buildings speak directly to the social conditions and agricultural economy of a subsistence farmstead despite the 20th century construction date. Of the three extant farms in the Lucia Valley from the same period and the three or four others in the nearby "Basket Flats" area south of the Lewis River, only the Pomeroy Farm retains extensive elements of the original farmstead. The farm illustrates the lifestyles of the men and women who sought independence on the land in the 1920s when Washington and the rest of the world were only two decades away from the nuclear age.

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Kettenring, F.M., "Petition to Clarke County for the View, Location, and Establishment of a County Road," Clark County Historical Museum, October 1913.

Logue, Henrietta Pomeroy, Notes from interview at Pomeroy Farm, Clark County, Washington, September 15, 1974.

Plowman, Angelina Pomeroy, Notes from interview at Pomeroy Farm, Clark County, Washington, September 15, 1974.

Plowman, Angelina Pomeroy, "Memoirs," Unpublished manuscript at Pomeroy Farm, Clark County, Washington.

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Verbal Boundary Description: The nominated property is a rectangularly shaped parcel described thusly: Beginning at the northwest corner of the intersection of Lucia Falls Road and the Pomeroy Ranch drive, proceed southwesterly along the north edge of the Lucia Falls Road approximately 500 feet; then proceed north approximately 450 feet until the south edge of a farm drive; then proceed east-northeasterly along said drive approximately 500 feet until the west edge of the Pomeroy Ranch drive; then turn south-southeasterly along Pomeroy Ranch drive approximately 450 feet until point of beginning, said parcel being legally described as within land located north of Lucia Falls Road (a county road) in the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 8, Township 4 North, Range 3 East, Willamette Meridian.

See Item 7 for Boundary Justification.

SITE PLAN
 POMEROY FARM
 Yacolt Vicinity, Clark Co.

- 1. Log House*
- 2. Gift Shop
- 3. Office
- 4. Separator Shed*
- 5. Old Chicken Coop*
- 6. Outhouse
- 7. Woodshed
- 8. Blacksmith Shop*
- 9. New Chicken Coop
- 10. Granary*
- 11. Barn*
- 12. Machine Shed*
- 13. Machine Shed*
- 14. Machine Shed

--- = Boundary of nomination
 * = Contributing resource

