

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| STATE: | Oregon |
| COUNTY: | Hood River |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY DATE | OCT 18 1974 |

1. NAME

COMMON: Cloud Cap Inn

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: NE flank of Mt. Hood in Mt. Hood National Forest Representative Al Ullman

CITY OR TOWN: Mt. Hood National Forest CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Oregon Second Congressional District

| | | | |
|--------|------|------------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| Oregon | 41 | Hood River | 027 |

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | Base camp for snow survey and rescue operations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: United States Forest Service

STREET AND NUMBER: 340 NE 122nd Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Portland 97216 STATE: Oregon

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Hood River County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Hood River 97031 STATE: Oregon

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

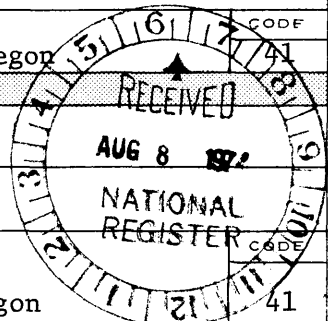
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Parks and Recreation Section

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem 97310 STATE: Oregon

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cloud Cap Inn sits on a rocky point with a commanding view 6,000 feet above sea level on the north-east slope of Mount Hood. It was erected in the summer of 1889 and was the first resort facility on the mountain. Designed by William H. Whidden, later with Ion Lewis to design Portland's noted city hall, it shows strong influence of the American Shingle style at that time being developed by prominent Eastern architects, notably McKim, Mead and White for whom Whidden had previously worked.

The building consists of three sections one storey in height which meet at roughly 30° angles in a C-shaped plan. The moderate-pitched hip roof with projecting eaves and courses of shingles and the lap-jointed log walls combine to give the Inn a feeling of easy horizontality. The log walls rest on a massive dry-stone foundation about one storey in height on the downhill west side of the Inn. The logs are bolted together, and the whole is anchored to the solid rock below with metal cables. There is no applied ornament, rather, ornamentation is through subtle changes in the use of materials and the use of numerous small-paned windows. Logs are placed vertically at one end of the structure rather than horizontally as in the rest, and one wall on the east side is shingled. The broad sweep of the shingle roof is punctuated by two large chimneys, one stone, the other brick.

Capacity of the Inn was thirty guests. Running water was piped from a nearby stream. Furnishings and cuisine were the finest. Because of difficulty of access, the Cloud Cap Inn was not a financial success, and the level of service and accommodation slowly declined.

The United States Forest Service has owned the building since 1940. It is now used by Special Youth Permit by the Crag Rats, a mountain rescue club from Hood River, Oregon. In return for the use of the building, the club is required to maintain it and it exists today in good and substantially original condition. Their current permit is good until 1982, at which time it may be renewed.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1889

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Travel and entertainment</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cloud Cap is situated on the north face of Mt. Hood in such a manner as to afford a good view of the mountain and its glaciers. Designed by the prominent Northwest architect, W. H. Widden, and constructed at 5,985 feet elevation in 1889, the Inn was the first recreational resort in Mt. Hood.

In the early 1880s Mt. Hood was an essentially unexplored region with no access roads. 1884 saw a road constructed to the snow line by the Mt. Hood Trail and Wagon Company. The company operated a daily stage between Hood River and the upper Hood River to the base of Mt. Hood. A summer tent camp at the terminus awaited the passengers who journeyed to Mt. Hood for exploration and climbing.

William M. Ladd and C. E. S. Wood, prominent businessmen of Portland, purchased the company in 1888 and commissioned the building of Cloud Cap Inn. They hired Portland architect, W. H. Whidden to design the building. William H. Whidden arrived in Portland about 1883 to supervise the erection of the Portland Hotel for the firm of McKim, Mead, and White. With an indefinite delay in the construction of the hotel, Whidden left and then returned about 1887 and decided to remain in Portland and establish a practice. In 1890 he joined with Ion Lewis, formerly a member of the Peabody and Stearns office in Boston, and established the trend for Northwest architecture. The Whidden and Lewis office produced many fine buildings, some reminiscent of the best work of McKim, Mead, and White, including their advancement of the "Colonial Revival" in residential work and the introduction of the Italian Renaissance style to public and business structures. The firm also fostered several young architects who carried on distinguished careers of their own.

Foremen for the various crews were brought in from Portland. A Mr. Brown, of Portland, ^{assisted} ~~acted~~ by James L. Langille, Hood River, was in charge of construction of the Inn itself, Brown leaving prior to the Inn's completion. Nearly all the work crews were Hood River men. Chinese laborers did most of the road grading and bridge construction. The work camp was established at Elk Creek Springs, 3 miles from the proposed Inn.

Work continued throughout the summer and Cloud Cap Inn was officially opened in August 1889. The few guests who visited the Inn (continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Langille, W. A. "Recollection of Old Cloud Cap Inn," 1927, Typescript, 7 pages. Copy in possession of Parks and Recreation Section, Oregon State Highway Division

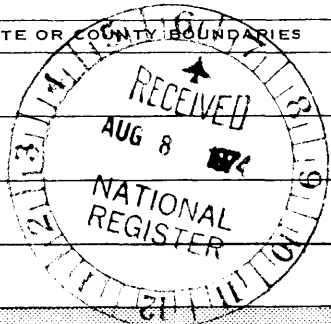
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|---------|---------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-----|-----|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | | | | LONGITUDE | | | | | | | |
| | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds | | | |
| NW | 0 | ' | " | 0 | ' | " | N45° | 24' | 13" | W121° | 39' | 13" |
| NE | 0 | ' | " | 0 | ' | " | | | | | | |
| SE | 0 | ' | " | 0 | ' | " | | | | | | |
| SW | 0 | ' | " | 0 | ' | " | | | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Paul Hartwig, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: Oregon State Highway Division DATE: July 26, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem 97310 STATE: Oregon CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *David G. Talbot*

Title: State Parks Superintendent

Date: August 2, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Arthur Jensen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/18/74

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10/17/74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

| | | |
|------------------|------------|-------------|
| STATE | Oregon | |
| COUNTY | Hood River | |
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| | | OCT 18 1974 |

(Number all entries)

CLOUD CAP INN (CONTINUED)

2. Location

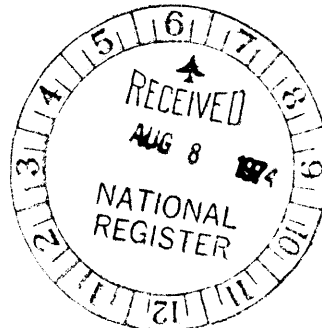
The Cloud Capp Inn is in an unsurveyed area with no section number, T. 2S., R. 9E, on the Willamette Meridian, Hood River County, Oregon.

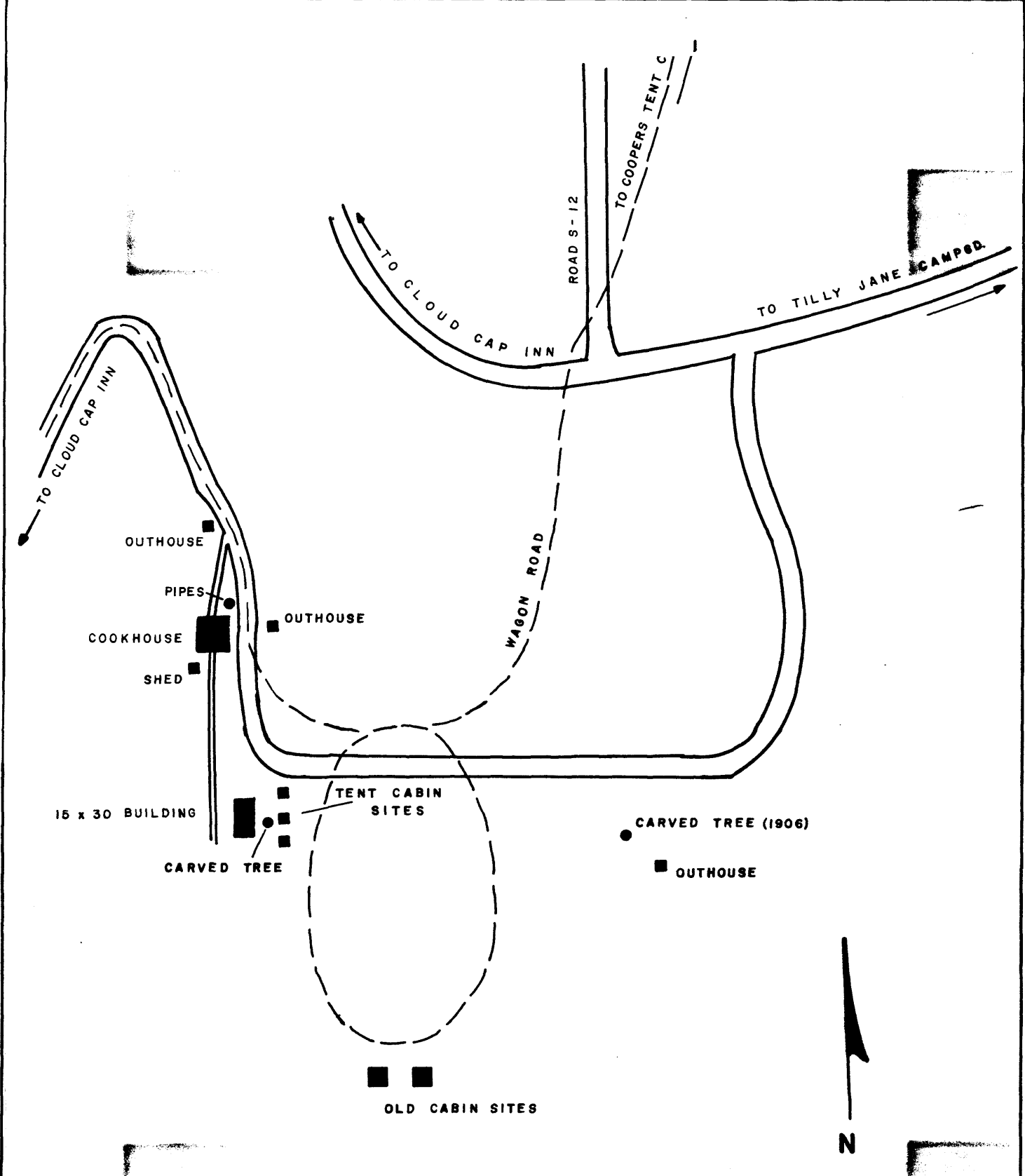
8. Significance

during the short season were very enthusiastic about the Inn as a vacation resort. When the Inn opened in 1890, the promoters anticipated large numbers of guests. An open-coach-and-four greeted the arrival of the Portland-Hood River train at the Hood River depot and carried the guests, using relays of horses, the twenty-seven miles to the Inn, taking 7 1/2 hours. The season proved to be very disappointing to the owners who realized that patronage did not equal operational expenses. Few people were unwilling to undertake the arduous journey; only 88 guests resided at the Inn during the summer of 1890.

Ladd and Wood sold the transportation company and turned the management over to the Langille family; a family which had previously explored and named much of the region. The Langilles operated the financially languishing Inn for the next several decades.

In 1926 the U. S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Public Roads completed a road suitable for car traffic to the snow line of Mount Hood. Schemes for development of the Inn and the area bloomed but these plans were abandoned with the construction of the magnificent Timberline Lodge in 1938. Timberline Lodge became the resort center of Mount Hood and the Cloud Cap Inn fell into disuse. The Forest Service acquired the property in 1940 and contemplated demolition of the Inn but protests from civic organizations were able to prevent its destruction. The Forest Service retained the Inn as a base for rescue missions and snow surveys. Currently the Inn's grounds are used for picnicing during the summer, and the building is used year round by the Crag Rats, a mountain rescue club.



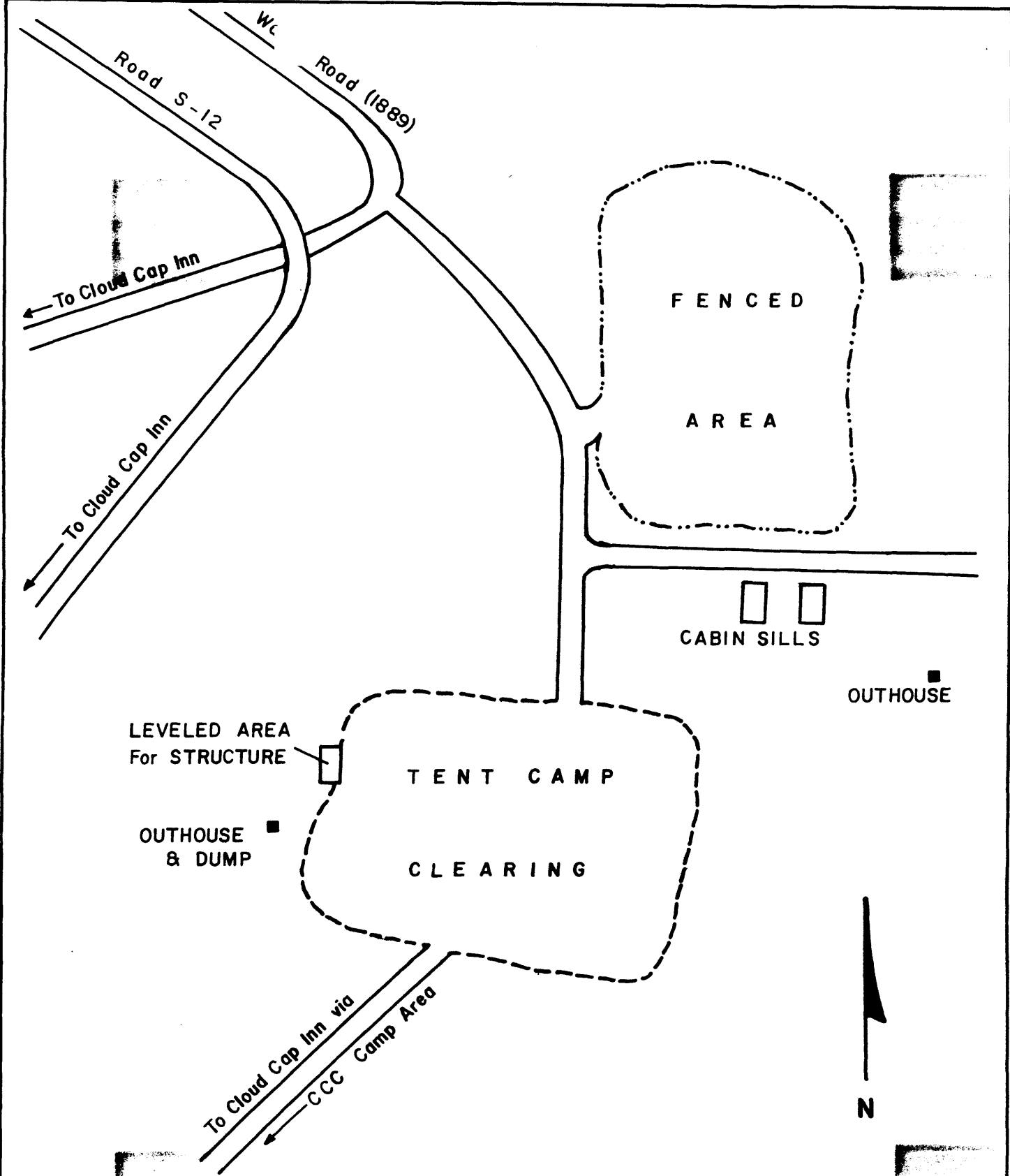


CCC CAMP AREA

HOOD RIVER R.D.

USDA MT. HOOD NAT'L FOREST

no scale
 drawn 12/6/79 G. Hoy



| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| COOPER'S TENT CAMP AREA | Hood River R.D. |
| USDA Mt. Hood Nat'l Forest | no scale drawn 12/6/79 g.tloy |