

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	Lewis
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAR 26 1975

1. NAME

COMMON: Mineral Log Lodge

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Hill Road

CITY OR TOWN: Mineral

STATE: Washington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: #3 - Honorable Julia B. Hansen

COUNTY: Lewis

CODE: 53

CODE: 041

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"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input 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 (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: West Fork Timber Company

STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Plaza Building

CITY OR TOWN: Tacoma

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Lewis County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: 1630 Chehalis Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Chehalis

STATE: Washington

CODE: 53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

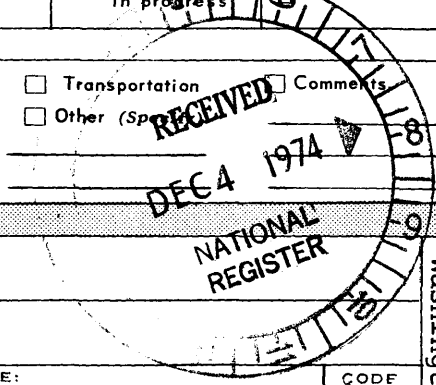
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	Lewis
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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Built in 1906, Mineral Log Lodge is a two and a half story inn of about twenty-five rooms. It is located in the little town of Mineral, Washington, fifteen miles southeast of Mt. Rainier near the shores of Mineral Lake. Constructed mostly of logs, the lodge is supported by a post foundation on level ground. The lot in front slopes gently down to the lake across the road, and the remaining portion is a cleared area in a forest setting of second growth.

The main portion of the building has a simple rectangular plan with a fairly steep pitch gable roof shingled in cedar, its ridge running lengthwise. Centered along the slope on one side is a row of four small gable dormers, each with a double hung window. On the opposite side is a similar row of dormers, except that in place of the center two there is a single larger dormer with two windows and a taller gable end as required to cover these with a roof of the established pitch. The dormers are built from logs with their corner joinery covered by vertical cedar mouldings; the dormer sides taper from bottom to top and from back to front.

Surrounding this main wing on three sides is a broad hip roof veranda supported by a row of thick log posts. Because the veranda is not continued around the back wall, its three sides are all about the same length at the overhang. The roof slopes gently joining the walls of the building just below the sills of second story windows, and it is finished underneath in a horizontal soffit. On the two long sides, second floor windows are positioned roughly below the corresponding dormers. There are two bay windows on opposite sides under the veranda, one long and toward the back, and the other shorter and toward the front. These are added to, respectively, the dining room and the foyer. They both have tall, continuous bands of fixed windows, each with a transom divided by muntins in an "X".

Centered in the gable and in front, facing the lake, is a second floor balcony with a shed roof, pole supports and balustrade. Below this, under the veranda, is the main entrance.

Behind the gable end in back is a one and a half story kitchen building of similar proportions and orientation somewhat like a scaled down version of the main structure. There are two full size dormers identical to the others in each side of its roof, and it is offset flush with one side of the main building. There is an attached hip roof one story porch across the back enclosed on its sides with latticework. Originally the kitchen stood separately for fire protection, although it was later attached to the building.

The log work is outstanding. The overlapping ends of the logs are fitted together at corners by cutting the underside of each crosswise creating a semi-cylindrical void precisely fitted to the size of the next log down. This joinery is even more interesting where interior log partitions meet at a 45 degree angle, compounding the problem. The projecting ends of

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#7 - Description
Mineral Log Lodge

the logs are trimmed parallel to the diagonal wall behind them.

The logs are all exceptionally straight and round, with little size variation down their length. Unobtrusive chinking is accomplished with narrow, wedge shaped strips of wood.

The interior consists on the ground floor of the large dining and foyer areas, each with a fireplace. The fireplaces are stone masonry constructed of cobbles that decrease in size as the fireplace tapers to a neck above the logwork mantel. There is also a room and an office for the innkeeper. In the foyer, next to the office and dining room, the main staircase has a balustrade made of peeled poles. Partitions on this floor are primarily log construction.

The upper floors are divided lengthwise by central halls with four small rooms on either side or one room to a dormer. The combination of tapering dormers and sloping walls produces a very inviting space. At the end of the hall on the second floor, there is a balcony that overlooks Mineral Lake with Mt. Rainier rising directly behind it. On these floors the partitions are studwalls, and the walls and ceiling are finished in wood paneling of three inch tongue and groove planks; the sort with beveled edges and a groove down the center creating the texture and appearance of two planks each.

With the exception of adding plumbing and connecting and generally modernizing the kitchen, the lodge is unaltered from its original appearance. Most all of the walls retain their natural finish.



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1906

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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <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

Mineral Log Lodge was an inn built by a Mr. Gilfellin to serve as a wilderness retreat for affluent residents of Tacoma and Seattle. Because of its location near a mountain mineral lake, the lodge had a potential for year-round operation. It could attract hunters and winter sportsmen or vacationers and people seeking the supposed therapeutic effects of bathing in mineral waters. The Tacoma and Eastern Railroad stopped twice daily in the town of Elbe nearby where a horse and rig provided transportation for the remaining few miles to Mineral.

Little is known about Gilfellin. As the story is told locally, he was a wealthy young investor from the east, the son of an Englishman who manufactured Gilfellin Radios, one of the earliest made. The actual construction of the lodge was done by Scandinavian residents of the Mineral area who were experienced old world craftsmen. For reasons that included its remote location, the lodge was not a commercial success, so liquor, gambling, and "other vices" were added to attract the business of local loggers and mill workers. This operation was raided repeatedly, changing hands several times. It is said that Gilfellin married an Austrian countess and moved to Argentina.

Old stationery since found in the lodge confirms that some time in the early 1920's a quack doctor purchased the property, which then became known as the Mineral Lake Sanatorium for "the alcoholic, the epileptic, and the mildly insane". Later the Weyerhauser Timber Company acquired it as a hunting lodge for company officials and their guests; however it remained little used during this period as Weyerhauser was not actively logging in the vicinity.

Finally L. T. Murray Sr. and the West Fork Logging Company bought forest lands that included the lodge. Their operation did involve Mineral Lake, and for a while the lodge was occupied by Jake Nesheim, the camp cook. For some time Murray used the building to host business and political meetings. The guest register from the 1940's includes the signatures of Arthur P. Langley, Governor of Washington; Harry P. Cain, U.S. Senator from Washington State; State Land Commissioner Jack Taylor, and Assistant Land Commissioner Frank Yates. There are also signatures of the State Treasurer, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction, members of Congress, and businessmen from throughout the United States.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

None

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

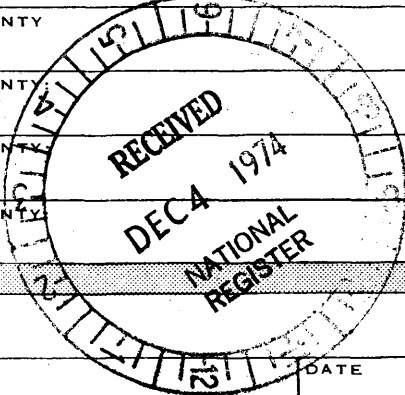
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		46 ° 43 ' 20 "	122 ° 10 ' 58 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

10/562580
5174400
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **James O. Backman**

ORGANIZATION: **Lewis County Historical Society**

DATE: **August 20, '73**

STREET AND NUMBER: **617 West First Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Centralia** STATE: **Washington** CODE: **53**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 Charles H. Odegaard
Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Date Nov. 26, 1974

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

AK Wortschke
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/26/75

ATTEST:

W. Hunter
Keeper of The National Register

Date 3-25-75

#8 - Significance
Mineral Lake Lodge

Mineral Log Lodge is significant as a complex, large scale log structure of twenty-five rooms. It is an outstanding example of craftsmanship using mostly readily available, natural materials. Some of the furniture still includes original pieces that were made by bending peeled saplings into a graceful settee and chairs. The interior has the rugged elegance of a wilderness hunting lodge for the very wealthy, which as an inn was intended to attract the upper middle class. Although partly undocumented, the lodge has an interesting history that is a source of pride and speculation to the residents of Mineral.

