



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 10-900-a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Black Lake School
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number vicinity 6000 Black Lake Blvd. S.W. not for publication
city, town Olympia vicinity
state Washington code WA county Thurston code 034067 zip code 98502

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>—</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>—</u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Rural Public School Buildings 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.

Jacob E. [Signature] Date 3/16/90
Signature of certifying official

Washington State Department of Community Development 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. *Patricia Andrus* 5/10/90
 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: schoolSocial: meeting hall

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social: meeting hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: gable roof vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concretewalls wood: weatherboardroof asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located five and one-half miles southwest of Olympia and directly west of Black Lake, the Black Lake School is a wood frame, gable roof structure surrounded by a historic two-acre schoolyard. The school, which was built as a one-room structure in 1910 and enlarged in the 1930s, is a T-shaped, one-story structure resting on a poured concrete foundation. Covered with composition shingles, the gable roof has exposed rafters and gable-end fascia boards supported by ornamental brackets. The roofline is broken by a simple brick chimney. The original belfry has been removed.

Walls are clad with drop siding and cornerboards, with some nonhistoric vertical siding at the north side. A shed-roofed porch in the corner of the "L" on the front (east) facade shelters the original paneled double main entry doors. The porch has simple corner posts, and concrete floor, steps and handicapped-access ramp with metal pipe railing. The rear entry has a similar entry porch and original paneled double doors. Fenestration generally consists of double-hung windows with plain surrounds. The north side windows have the lower sash boarded over. A sign on the front facade reads "Black Lake Grange".

Originally a one-room school, the building was expanded to include a second room and kitchen in the 1930s. The interior retains the original stage, blackboards, and flooring, but double doors have been removed between the rooms. On the north side the lower half of the long multipaned windows have been boarded to prevent vandalism. A newer kitchen area is on the south side of the main entry.

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)

EducationSocial History

Period of Significance

1910-1939

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

The Black Lake School is historically significant for its association with public education in rural Thurston County. Originally built in 1910 and enlarged by the WPA in the 1930s, the school was the center of civic life in the Black Lake community, serving as a graded school until 1946 and as a grange hall from 1938. The structure continues to be the primary public building in this part of the county. Characterized by a gabled roof and bracketed eave, the simple two-room structure retains the associative and physical features established for the property type in the Rural Public Schools multiple property documentation form.

Historical Significance: Black Lake was home to the "Sachal" band of Chehalis Indians and the lake was part of the main Indian route between Puget Sound and the Pacific Coast. Early European and American explorers also followed this route and noted the lake in journals. Hudson's Bay employees were the first white settlers in the area. William O. "Black Lake" Thompson, the first American on the lake, came in 1852 and established a Donation Land Claim on the west side of the lake. He led development on the nearby fertile prairies. A sawmill was built on the lake at a location which, in later years, has become a popular residential area.

The school is the third built on the site donated by "Black Lake" Thompson. The first school, built before the turn of the century, was replaced by another structure in 1903; and the nominated building was built in 1910, at which time the 1903 school became a community hall. Neither of the earlier structures still stands. When completed, the nominated one-room school accommodated eight grades. The building was later enlarged with a second classroom and kitchen, added through a WPA project. In 1938, the school became the meeting hall for the Black Lake Grange. Organized in 1927, the grange sponsored hot lunches for the school children beginning in 1946. When the school closed in 1946 and the district consolidated with Tumwater, the Grange took over the building. The Black Lake Grange was instrumental in sponsoring a second drainage ditch to keep a fixed level for Black Lake and aided in the establishment of a volunteer fire department. Among other fund raising and civic projects the Grange has maintained the Delphi Cemetery.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Black Lake Grange History," from the Washington State Grange, n.p., n.d.
Black Lake/Littlerock/Delphi Sub-Area Plan, Thurston Regional Planning, 1981.
Blankenship, Mrs. George, comp. and ed., Early History of Thurston County, Washington, Olympia, n.p., 1914.
Brown, Ruth, "Black Lake Grange . . . a History," n.p., n.d.
Larson, Lynn L., and Randall F. Schalk, "Black Lake Ethnographic and Historic Background," Office of Public Archaeology, Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Washington, Seattle, 1984.

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 approximately two acres

UTM References

A	<u>10</u>	<u>501020</u>	<u>5204300</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Thompson Donation Land Claim. Commencing 80 rods west of northeast corner, west 20 rods, south 16 rods, east 20 rods, north 16 rods. Less road, less right-of-way. Parcel #09860011000.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire parcel that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Shanna Stevenson, Preservation Planner
organization Thurston County Historic Commission
street & number 2000 Lakeridge Dr. S.W.
city or town Olympia

date May 1989
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state Washington zip code 98502

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 1

Black Lake School, Photograph #1
Olympia vicinity, Washington
Tom Costantini
April 2, 1985
Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
111 West 21st Avenue
Olympia, Washington
Southeast corner
N/A