

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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# 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 Delphi School  
other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number 7601 S.W. Delphi Rd.  not for publication  
city, town Olympia  vicinity  
state Washington code WA county Thurston code 034 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>	— 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	—	— objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

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

Paul E. Johnson Signature of certifying official Date 6/1/90  
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. Melrose Lyman Entered in the National Register 7/19/80  
 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education: school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social: meeting hall

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**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Other: gable roof vernacularfoundation concretewalls wood: weatherboardroof asphalt

other

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located in the Delphi Valley, once a verdant old growth forest, about seven miles southwest of Olympia, the Delphi School is a rectangular, one-story wood frame structure on a poured concrete foundation. Its gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has open eaves with exposed rafters and wide gable-end fascia boards supported by ornamental brackets. Walls are clad with drop siding and cornerboards. A hip roofed extension at the southeast corner holds the vestibule.

A full-width porch on the front (east) facade supported by turned posts shelters the main entry door. Because of dry rot, the porch has been recently replaced following the original configuration. To the right of the door are four small three-paned windows. Above the porch is a sign reading, "Delphi School - Dist. 313 - 1910-1942." Another porch along the south facade leading to an auxiliary door is a later addition. The north facade has a row of tall, narrow double-hung windows with six-over-six lights which are covered by hinged plywood panels. Prompted by vandalism, the rear of the structure which was the woodshed has been enclosed recently in compatible construction. The hipped roof belltower on the vestibule section has also been removed. The interior has the original vestibule, large classroom and book storage room. A new kitchen and bathrooms have been added at the rear. The building has its original beaded-board walls and blackboards. The schoolhouse is adjoined by the historic schoolyard, which is included in the nomination.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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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)

Education

Period of Significance

1910-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

The Delphi School is historically significant for its association with public education in rural Thurston County and with the development of the small company town of Delphi. Built in 1910 on land donated by the Mud Bay Logging Company, the school was established to serve the children of employees of the company, one of the largest industries in the county during the period. The school was one of the few public structures built in association with the company and the only remaining structure from the settlement at Delphi. In 1942, one year after the company ceased operations, the school was closed. But the simple, one-room, gable roofed structure is well preserved, strongly conveys its historic character, and meets the registration requirement established for the property type in the Rural Public Schools multiple property documentation form.

Historical Background: Delphi was on the migratory route for Native Americans along the Chehalis-Black Lake-Puget Sound corridor. Early white settlers were Hudson's Bay employees who followed traditional Indian routes. First American settlers established donation land claims in the area and later homesteaded on open prairie lands. But not until large-scale logging began after the turn of century did population significantly increase in the valley. By 1910, the area was renamed by a local resident who saw it as "Land of the Gods."

Built on land donated by the Mud Bay Logging Company in 1910, the Delphi School was a one-room facility for eight grades. Two other schools in the area--located at North Star and Buckhorn--served the children of loggers, but both are now gone. The Mud Bay Logging Company established its operations in the Delphi area beginning in 1900, bringing an influx of population by 1910 and with it a store and post office. The original Delphi School, built about 1900, was located across the street from this structure but was replaced by the nominated structure in order to accommodate the increase in population. By 1919 Mud Bay Logging had exhausted nearby timber supplies and in 1941 shut down operations entirely. The school was closed the following year. The building is currently owned and maintained by the Delphi Community Club.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Black Lake/Littlerock/Delphi Sub-Area Plan, Thurston Regional Planning, 1981.

Interviews with Marguerite Meyer, longtime resident, March 1985

Educational Service District 113 Records.

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**

Acreage of property 3.59 acres

UTM References

A	<u>10</u>	<u>498580</u>	<u>5202680</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Section 11 of Township 17 North Range 3 West, W.M. as follows: commencing at the east line, south 1°, 56' 27", west 919.03' from point on north line section. North 83°, 59' 39", west 1218.20' from northeast corner. North 86°, 29' 21", west 365.43' south 3°, 37' 18", west 184.39'. South 86° 54' 40", east 370.78,' to southeast corner of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of the section, northerly along east line to the beginning. Also: commencing at the line southwest quarter of the northeast quarter, north 86°, 54' 40", west 370.78' from northeast corner. South 3°,37' 18", west 281.68', south 86° 5' 33", east 143.42' to westerly of the McLane-Delphi Rd. North 35° 35' 27", east 25.07', northeasterly along curve route 85.23' to north line of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 11. North 86° 54' 40" west 329.91' to beginning. Also south 264' of W 165° of L 3 lying northerly of McLane-Delphi Road. Parcel No.: 13711120100.

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 Drive S.W.  
city or town Olympia

date May 1989  
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**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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Delphi School  
Delphi (Olympia vicinity), Thurston County, Washington  
Photo by: Shanna Stevenson  
1989  
Negative at: Washington State Office of  
Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
111 West 21st Avenue, KL-11  
Olympia, Washington  
View of east facade  
Photograph No. 1 of 1