

A DESCRIPTION OF THE LOG CABIN IN YEOMALT PARK Prepared per US Department of Interior guidelines and nomenclature.

National Historic Register -- Narrative of Description

Camp Hopkins (in "Camp Yeomalt Park") is a rustic, one-story log lodge built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1935 as a Scout camp-- a prime example of WPA "camp style" architecture. The building is in the center of a three-acre, forest parcel. A meadow surrounds the lodge's east and south sides. Five towering Douglas Fir trees anchor the building's west elevation. A small wetland, two camp sites, trails, an eagle roost and parking area are on site. A remodeled, WW II Army bath house (1942), used for a classroom, kitchen and restrooms; and a small residence for security also occupy the site. The buildings and site are isolated and visually screened by vegetation from the surrounding neighborhood. Good urban design of adjoining residential developments with roadway green belts, bicycle paths, nature trails and effective natural vegetation screens serve to preserve the feeling of forested isolation associated with the camp from its beginnings.

The lodge was built of horizontally laid, Fir log, construction (including gable ends, rafters and purlins). It has a front gable primary facade, a rear wing, and a rectangular floor plan. A rubble stone chimney centered on the west gable exterior incorporates exterior and interior fire boxes.

The lodge has two rooms-- a main room and an eastern gable end wing. The main room's exterior is 30' x 30' and the rear wing's is 10'3" x 23'8". The lodge foot print is approximately 1,142 square feet. The main room's interior is 28' x 28' (784 square-feet) and the rear wing 's interior is 9'5" x 21' 11" (209 square-foot). Total interior floor space is 993 square feet.

The walls and tie logs are hand-peeled Fir, 7" to 12" in diameter. They are from second-growth, 35 to 40-years-old trees logged from surrounding land first logged in the 1890's. Most wall logs are laid up in a vee-grove and scribe-fit style-- they have a lateral groove or carved hollow to tightly saddle the log below it. The saddle-notched corners have random length overhangs with distinctive double bevels. Chinking is oakum, common caulking material in this former ship building and maintenance community.

The roof structure is 5" to 8" peeled log rafters and purlins. It is covered with 28", hand-split, tapered, cedar shakes, like replacements of the original. All are visible as the interior ceiling. The roof overhang is approximately two-feet.

The massive stone chimney is 21'4" tall with two flues, one each for exterior and interior fireplaces. Each flu is 15" x 16" with 4" separation (9" thick walls minimum). The exterior fireplace flue angles north within the chimney, the interior flue to the south. The top of the chimney is 51" x 33". The interior fireplace has a three-stepped, shelved, stone lintel.

The primary entrance door is to the right (south) of the exterior fireplace and chimney. The door's exterior is hand-peeled, vertical,

Fir poles. A secondary entrance, centered on the wing's east wall, is of rough sawed Fir.

Nine (9) 3'3" square openings penetrate the log walls. There are three on each of the north and south walls of the main room, one in the main room's west wall centered north of the fireplace; and one each in the wing's north and south walls. Evidence indicates these were screen-covered and remnants of hinges suggest they may have been shuttered.

The main room's floor and the lodge's foundation are monolithic concrete. The second room's floor, once wood, is now dirt. It was designed as a raised stage for skits with a 12' wide, carved opening in the main room's east wall for the stage front.

The cabin has a perimeter subsidence because of rot in the sill logs. Construction photographs show the foundation was poured around the sill logs, thus creating a trough which concentrated moisture and led to the rot. Although there is typical evidence of insect infestations, the logs above the first round are in generally good condition and structurally sound. The longer corner overhangs show some deterioration due to weather.

The lodge is as built with four (4) exceptions:

(1) The east wing once had a raised wooden floor.

(2) Construction photographs and existing logs indicate that the west end once had a "porch." Two sets of parallel horizontal log railings and two overhead logs above each railing extended from each side of the fireplace end of the building, perhaps as a covered porch over the fireplace end or as a structure to which tarps could be fastened in bad weather. They are now gone. No memory or other photographic evidence reveal their use or longevity.

(3) Vandalism and unauthorized entering became a problem in several parks in the 1970s and 1980s. In response, an on-site residence was established and lodge windows were boarded over. Subsequently, when the cedar shake roof was replaced, four 2' x 3' fiberglass panels were installed in the roof to provide day light to the interior.

(4) Failure to maintain the southern half of the wing's gable roof led to the collapse of its SE corner and the lower east wall between the door and the corner. The remaining logs have since been stabilized with temporary bracing.

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES:

Significant exterior features include:

- Stone fireplace and chimney;
- Saddled log walls;
- Rustic doors and hinges, especially vertical pole door to right of fireplace;
- Over-lapping, saddle-notched and beveled corners;
- Historic markers, especially one hand-crafted of copper at the Navy Shipyard; and

Fir trees at west end.

Significant interior features include:

Stone fireplace and elaborate stone lintels;
Exposed log walls;
Exposed log ties;
Exposed cedar shake ceiling;
Exposed Fir log purlins, rafters and braces;
Broad carved-arch wall opening connecting the two open rooms;
Raised wooden floor in east wing; and
Oakum chinking (common to historic local shipyard).

HISTORIC MARKERS:

Four (4) historic markers-- one copper and three bronze-- are mounted on the exterior fireplace recalling cabin history and the community spirit and pride that built it. They record the WPA builders, the name and dedication date of the lodge, the first scouts to use it, and a family who inspired its construction.

A cast metal marker states: "BUILT BY WORKS PROGRESS
ADMINISTRATION, 1935-1937."

Another reads:

"BSA SCOUT CAMP MAJOR HOPKINS, 8-1-35."

The first Scouts to use Camp Hopkins are remembered on a piece of copper, hand-printed with steel letter punches at the Puget Sound Navy Shipyard in Bremerton by Master Carpenter and Scoutmaster, Harold Foss. It reads:

"Presented by Troop 497, 10 - 1 - 1935

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Scoutmaster: | Harold I. Foss |
| Senior Patrol Leader: | Alfred Pousard |
| Scribe: | Vernon Modes |
| Stag Patrol: | Flying Eagle Patrol: |
| Leslie Pousard | Ebo Ookazaki |
| Tsukasa Sukuma | Leonard Cole |
| Jack Oakland | Charles Knechtel |
| Shigaro Moritani | Elmer Knechtel |
| Gerald Nakata | Richard Ronne |
| | Robert Modes" |

The newest (1990) cast plaque reads:

"CAMP HOPKINS: ERIC A. & ETHYL POUSARD
PROVIDED INSPIRATION, LAND AND RESOURCES
TO BRING CAMP HOPKINS INTO BEING
IN HONOR OF THEIR SONS, ALFRED AND LESLIE,
BOTH EAGLE SCOUTS."

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS (2) Structures that do not contribute to the history:

1. Auxilliary building -- A bath house with restrooms was built a few feet north of the lodge as part of a U.S. Army Coast Artillery headquarters complex in 1942. It fell into disrepair and was remodeled

extensively in 1987 to include restrooms, kitchen and meeting room with carpentry bench. It is a non-contributing element.

Other buildings hastily erected by the Army during WW II were just as hastily demolished or relocated when the war ended. A small (16' x 16') concrete slab foundation of one, a field kitchen, remains in a meadow beside the log cabin, commonly used as an assembly area.

Recently added flag pole and art class totem pole

2. A temporary (mobile home) residence was established on site in the 1980s behind the auxiliary building to discourage vandalism. It is a non-contributing element.

CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS (2):

1. & 2. Two campsites with beach and field stone fire pits, half-round log benches and inter-connecting trails are in the forest north of the cabin where Scouts have camped for many years.

NON-CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS (2):

1. & 2. A flag pole erected in recent years and a totem pole carved in the mid-1990s are located at the meadow concrete slab, now used as an assembly area. They reflect the historic use but are not historic.

UTILITIES:

The log building was electrified, probably by the military. It never had plumbing. A two-seat, out house was extant until the 1960's. A well installed by the WPA provided water outside the cabin. The well was improved by the Army who extended water service to their bath house. The well was replaced in recent years by a connection to City water.