

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
DESCHUTES COUNTY

HIST. NAME: Camp Polk Cemetery DATE BUILT: <1880
COMMON NAME: ORIGINAL USE: cemetery
ADDRESS: Camp Polk Rd. PRESENT USE: cemetery
CITY: Sisters ARCHITECT:
OWNER: T. Roberts, Trustee BUILDER:
T/R/S: T.14s R.10e s.27 THEME: settlement
MAP NO.: 141027D STYLE:
ADDITION: TAX LOT: 2100
BLOCK: LOT: BLDG. STRUC. DIST. SITE OBJ.
QUAD: Sisters SE

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: NO. OF STORIES:
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: BASEMENT:
ROOF FORM AND MATERIAL:
WALL CONSTRUCTION: FRAME:
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS:
DECORATIVE FEATURES:
OTHER:
CONDITION: Good Fair Poor Moved
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (DATED):

NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES: shed

KNOWN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES: None

SETTING: rural road

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Historical and/or architectural importance, dates, events, persons, contexts):

This pioneer cemetery has served the communities of Camp Polk, Sisters, Cloverdale and Plainview since 1880. The cemetery remains in use as a public facility.

SOURCES: L. McArthur, Oregon Geographical Names, Portland: OHS (1983).

NEGATIVE NO.:

RECORDED BY: Keith Clark

DATE: May, 1990

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: 209

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM - TWO

NAME: Camp Polk Cemetery

T/R/S: T.14s R.10e s. 34

ADDRESS: Camp Polk Rd., Sisters

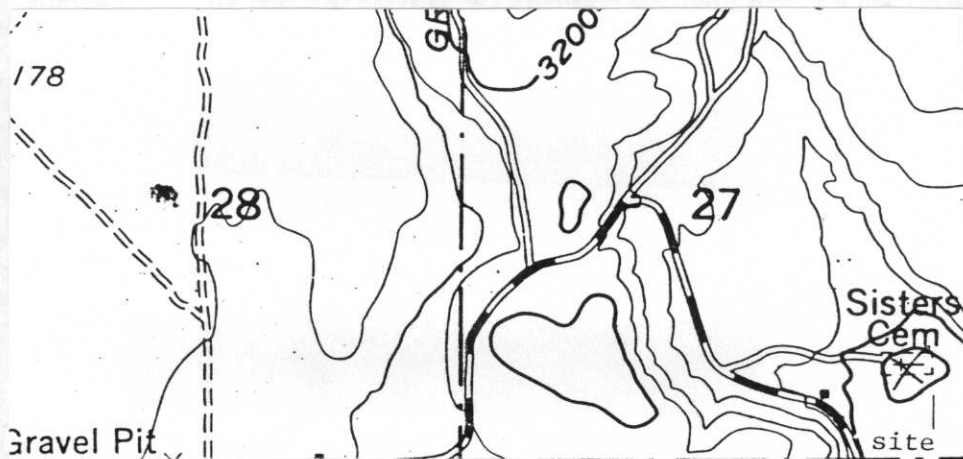
MAP: 141027D

TAX LOT: 2100

QUAD.: Sisters SE



NEGATIVE NO.: 10



GRAPHIC AND PHOTO SOURCES: Map - USGS
Photos - Ward Tonsfeldt
SHPO INVENTORY NO.: 209
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ESEE FINDINGS

CAMP POLK CEMETERY

ADDRESS: Camp Polk Road, Sisters

TAX ADDRESS: T.14S R.10E S.27 TL 2100

OWNERSHIP: Private (Trust)

EXISTING USE: Cemetery (Zoned: Site is within EFU - 80, Exclusive Farm Use - 80 Acres)

PLAN DESIGNATION: Agricultural

INVENTORY REQUIREMENT: Available information is adequate to indicate the resource site is significant.

LOCATION: Site is located on Cemetery Road, off of Camp Polk Road, approximately three miles northeast of Sisters, Oregon.

QUALITY: The condition of the grave markers and the quality of information regarding the history of this site make it one of the County's best examples of a pioneer cemetery.

QUANTITY: The site represents one of the County's last extant pioneer cemeteries. The cemetery is approximately 150 yards by 250 yards. It is fenced and maintained.

CONFLICTING USE DETERMINATION AND ANALYSIS: Alteration of the site is the conflicting use. The site remains in use as a public facility. The probability of demolition of the site for agriculture, surface mining or other land use activities is low, due to administrative rules and ordinances regarding cemeteries.

ECONOMIC: No economic consequences.

SOCIAL: Alteration of the Camp Polk Cemetery has two facets of social consequence: past and present. Alteration of the cemetery could result in the loss of one of the last extant pioneer cemeteries and of a key piece of County history, dating back to the early 1860s.

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In 1865, Chief Paulina of the Snake Indians and his warriors had been attacking both white settlers and Warm Springs Indians for some time when the army set up a number of outposts and camps. One of these was Camp Polk, about three miles northeast of Sisters on the bank of Squaw Creek. Captain Charles LaFollette with men from Company A, 1st Oregon Volunteer Infantry, was ordered to establish this camp in 1865 near the junction of the Eugene and Santiam roads. The detachment stayed at the site until the Spring of 1866 when the program was given up and the camp abandoned without a shot being fired at an Indian.

In 1870, the site of the camp was homesteaded by Samuel M. W. Hindman. He established a store and the first post office in the Sisters area in 1875. His barn, to the west of the cemetery, is the oldest now standing in Deschutes County. For many years Camp Polk served as an important stop for settlers, cattlemen and sheepmen during the settlement of Central Oregon. This cemetery, also known as Hindman Cemetery, is the burial site for some of these men and women. The earliest marked grave is July 8, 1880.

Today, the cemetery continues to be used by families with pioneer heritage, as well as others who value the site's natural, historical and cultural significance.

ENVIRONMENTAL: Alteration of the site could result in impacts to the visual environment. The site is in a natural forest setting. Early grave markers and associated tributes are compatible with this setting. In some cases, however, new markers and partitioning structures (chain enclosures/fences, etc.) are not compatible and represent a negative impact to the visual environment.

ENERGY: No energy consequences.

CONCLUSION: The cemetery should be protected. It is historically significant. In addition, the site is valued as a burial site by today's citizens. The resource should be designated 3C and the conflicting uses specifically limited. The resource should be protected as per the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

STATE OF OREGON INVENTORY
OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
State Historic Preservation Office
Oregon State Parks, Salem, OR 97310



County Deschutes

Theme 5A

Name
(Common) Camp Polk Cemetery

(Historic) _____

Address Off Camp Polk Road

Present Owner _____

Address _____

Original Use _____

Date of Construction _____

Physical description of property and statement of historical significance:

Approximately 150 X 250 yards, fenced and maintained.

Pioneer Cemetery for Camp Polk--Sisters--Cloverdale--Plainview communities.
Earliest marked stone is July 8, 1880. Cemetery is also known as Hindman
Cemetery.

continue on back if necessary

Recorded by Keith Clark Date 8/21/83

Sources consulted (continue on back if necessary):

McArthur, OGN, p. 114
Barnum Survey

Please enclose map. Township 14S ^N _S 10E ^E _W Section 34

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