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Project Description

The proposed project is to evaluate the buildings of the Lowell Ranger Station as to their potential listing on the National Register individually or as a district. Individual inventory forms for ten buildings are attached. Figures 1 through 3 show the location of the Lowell Ranger Station. Figures 4 and 5 are historic views of the compound. Historic photos of the individual buildings are included with their respective inventory forms.

The inventory and evaluation are being undertaken as a request by the Army Corps of Engineers before they take possession of the buildings from the USDA Forest Service. There is no intention of physically altering the buildings in any way, at this time.

Project Location Data

Address:	Lowell Ranger Station, Lowell, Oregon
County:	Lane
Location:	Township 19S Range 01W Section 14
USGS:	Lowell OR 7.5 min (1984/1986)
Latitude:	43° 55' 01" N (NAD 83)
Longitude:	122° 46' 48" W

National Register Eligibility Evaluation

The complex of 11 buildings at the Lowell Ranger Station was constructed primarily in 1953, with later construction occurring in 1959 and 1981. It was established as a replacement facility for the West Boundary Ranger Station, which was decommissioned and demolished when the Lookout Point Dam was built and the area occupied by the West Boundary Ranger Station was inundated. The buildings are architecturally removed from the CCC Depression-era architecture that characterizes many US Forest Service facilities. It seems to demonstrate a connection to the ideals of the Region 6 Rustic Style, but conforms more to the stylistic trends of the 1950s.

The following ranking of the Lowell Ranger Station adapts a system of methodology set forth by Forest Service Historian, E. Gail Throop, in her ranking of Depression-era buildings in the Region 6 National Forests. This evaluation will attempt to follow a similar approach, though it will take into consideration changes in building practices and the stylistic preferences of a much later time period, namely the 1950s.

The first evaluative test concerns the character-defining features of the buildings in the Lowell Ranger Station complex. The characteristic elements addressed include vertical wood siding, lap siding and louvered vents in the gable ends, hip and gable roof forms (sometimes combined), grouped single-pane awning windows, brick chimneys with banded caps, simple porches supported on square posts, broad overhanging eaves, and single-story plans often featuring a garage or carport attached by a breezeway. With each feature contributing to the building's stylistic value, the building is rated higher for the more character-defining features it possesses.

The integrity of each individual building is also assessed, based on alterations to the exterior and interior. This is done by comparing the existing form and features of the building with the historic form and features using historic photographs and material knowledge. The relative importance of the effected element and the degrees of severity of the modification are taken into consideration. Three types of elements are considered in the exterior integrity ranking, including building form, materials, and setting or context. Three types of elements are considered in the interior integrity ranking, including interior layout, surface finishes, and fixtures. The more drastic and permanent the changes, the lower a building will rank in terms of integrity. A building that has reversible alterations will be considered to have higher integrity. The highest integrity ranking will be awarded to a building that has been virtually unaltered.

Throop's methodology also ranked the individual buildings according to "Design Factors." This evaluation strategy was developed by the Region 6 Architectural Group to include five design factors, including form (a measure of aesthetics, including composition, mass, line, scale and proportion), function (a measure of how appropriate the building design is to the intended use), structure (a measure of the adequacy of the structural framework of the building in its resistance to force, strain, and wear), siting or orientation (a measure of the competency of the siting of the building by degree of concordance with the surrounding environment), and execution (a measure of the degree of skill exhibited in the workmanship and construction of the building). The criteria primarily include the quality of form as related to aesthetics and material use, the suitability of function, the adequacy of structure, the competency of siting or orientation, and the quality of workmanship in execution. These five categories were rated on a scale of poor to excellent for each building.

Building #1035 Residence

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on this residence: wood board and batten siding, wood louvered vents in the gable ends, grouped single-pane awning windows, gable-on-hip roof with broad overhanging eaves, brick chimney with banded cap, inset porch supported on double square posts, and a single story plan with a garage attached by a breezeway. The majority of the established

character-defining features are present in this building, making it an excellent example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: No alterations have been made.
- Materials: No alterations have been made to exterior materials.
- Setting/Context: No alterations to landscaping or other site-related features have been made.
- Layout: The plan has not been altered.
- Surface Finishes: Some alterations to surface finishes have been made, including carpet replacing original wood floors in the living room and new cabinet surfaces in bathrooms.
- Fixtures: Many original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms. The furnace had been replaced and relocated to the attic.

The exterior of the building has excellent integrity. The alterations to surface finishes on the interior degrade the integrity; however, the remaining original fixtures result in an over all ranking of fair for the interior of this residence.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The residence has a logical composition that is identical to neighboring buildings. It is L-shaped with the rear projection consisting of an attached garage. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- Function: The building is a good design for its intended use, with the garage hidden at the rear and a formal façade facing the street.
- Structure: The residence is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect, though regular maintenance has been neglected.
- Siting: The residence is located on a flat site near the street. It is one of a group of three residences. It sits apart from the utilitarian structures of the complex.
- Execution: The residence is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses the majority of the features that characterize the complex. It is well situated among other buildings of the same style and use. Its architectural style is distinctive.

In the area of building design, this residence is considered to have a ranking of excellent. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the residence are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the residence has an excellent ranking.

Building #1036 Watershed Council Office

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on the Watershed Council Office: wood board and batten siding, lap siding and wood louvered vents in the gable ends, grouped single-pane awning windows, side-facing gable roof, brick chimney with banded cap, projecting porch supported on square posts, and a single story plan. The majority of the established character-defining features are present in this building, with the exception of broad eaves on all elevations. Considering this was once a residence, it also lacks the attached carport typical of the other residences. These qualities make it a good example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: No alterations have been made.
- Materials: No alterations have been made to exterior materials.
- Setting/Context: No alterations to landscaping or other site-related features have been made.
- Layout: The plan has been greatly altered through the removal and addition of partition walls, closing off of doorways and the fireplace, removal of closets, and installation of interior windows.
- Surface Finishes: Major alterations to surface finishes have been made, including the installation of carpet, non-historic wood paneling, and new cabinet surfaces in the kitchen and bathrooms.
- Fixtures: Some original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms, but new electrical fixtures have been installed throughout the building.

The exterior of the building has excellent integrity. The alterations to the building's plan degrades the integrity drastically, as do alterations to surface finishes, resulting in an over all ranking of poor for the interior of the Watershed Council building.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The building has a logical composition that is symmetrical. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- Function: The building had a good design for its intended use as a residence. Major alterations to the plan have achieved only passable appropriateness for use as an office.
- Structure: The building is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect.
- Siting: The building is located on a site that slopes steeply at the east end of the building. It sits at the southeast corner of the complex and is partially obstructed from view and direct access by the mass of the Modular Office building.
- Execution: The building is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses many of the features that characterize the complex. Its architectural style is fairly distinctive.

In the area of building design, the Watershed Council building is considered to have a ranking of good. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the Watershed Council office are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the office has a fair ranking.

Building #1037 Residence

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on this residence: vertical tongue and groove shiplap siding, wood louvered vents in the gable ends, grouped single-pane awning windows, gable-on-hip roof with broad overhanging eaves, brick chimney with banded cap, inset porch supported on double square posts, and a single story plan with a garage attached by a breezeway. The majority of the established character-defining features are present in this building, making it an excellent example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: No alterations have been made.
- Materials: No alterations have been made to exterior materials.
- Setting/Context: No alterations to landscaping or other site-related features have been made.
- Layout: The plan has not been altered.
- Surface Finishes: A few alterations to surface finishes have been made, including new cabinet surfaces in bathrooms.
- Fixtures: Many original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms. The furnace had been replaced and relocated to the attic.

The exterior of the building has excellent integrity. The alterations to surface finishes on the interior degrade the integrity slightly; however, the remaining original fixtures result in an over all ranking of good for the interior of this residence.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The residence has a logical composition that is identical to neighboring buildings. It is L-shaped with the rear projection consisting of an attached garage. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- Function: The building is a good design for its intended use, with the garage hidden at the rear and a formal façade facing the street.
- Structure: The residence is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect, though regular maintenance has been neglected.

- **Siting:** The residence is located on a flat site near the street. It is one of a group of three residences. It sits apart from the utilitarian structures of the complex.
- **Execution:** The residence is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses the majority of the features that characterize the complex. It is well situated among other buildings of the same style and use. Its architectural style is distinctive.

In the area of building design, this residence is considered to have a ranking of excellent. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the residence are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the residence has an excellent ranking.

Building #1075 Residence

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on this residence: vertical rabbetted channel siding, grouped single-pane awning windows, gable roof with broad overhanging eaves, brick chimney with banded cap, inset porch supported on a square post, and a single story plan with an attached carport. The majority of the established character-defining features are present in this building, with the exception of the lap siding and louvered vents in the gable ends, which changes the building's appearance only slightly and is indicative of its later construction and differing style. It is, nevertheless, an excellent example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- **Building form:** No alterations have been made.
- **Materials:** No alterations have been made to exterior materials.
- **Setting/Context:** No alterations to landscaping or other site-related features have been made.
- **Layout:** The plan has not been altered.
- **Surface Finishes:** Some alterations to surface finishes have been made, new cabinet surfaces in bathrooms and kitchen.
- **Fixtures:** Many original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms. The furnace had been replaced and relocated to the attic and floor vents seem to have been retrofitted.

The exterior of the building has excellent integrity. The alterations to surface finishes on the interior and changes in heating systems degrade the integrity; however, the remaining original fixtures result in an overall ranking of good for the interior of this residence.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The residence has a logical composition that is compatible with neighboring buildings and identical to a nearby residence. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- Function: The building is a good design for its intended use, with a formal façade facing the access road.
- Structure: The residence is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect, though regular maintenance has been neglected.
- Siting: The residence is located on a flat site. It is one of a group of three residences. It sits apart from the utilitarian structures of the complex.
- Execution: The residence is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses the majority of the features that characterize the complex. It is well situated among other buildings of the same style and use. Its architectural style is distinctive.

In the area of building design, this residence is considered to have a ranking of excellent. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the residence are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the residence has an excellent ranking.

Building #1076 Residence

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on this residence: vertical rabbetted channel siding, grouped single-pane awning windows, gable roof with broad overhanging eaves, brick chimney with banded cap, inset porch supported on a square post, and a single story plan with an attached carport. The majority of the established character-defining features are present in this building, with the exception of the lap siding and louvered vents in the gable ends, which changes the building's appearance only slightly and is indicative of its later construction and differing style. It is, nevertheless, an excellent example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: Carport may have been enclosed and converted to garage, based on example seen in identical residence (#1075).
- Materials: No alterations have been made to exterior materials.
- Setting/Context: No alterations to landscaping or other site-related features have been made.

The interior of this building was inaccessible at the time of survey. With the exception of the carport conversion, however; the exterior of the building has good integrity.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The residence has a logical composition that is compatible with neighboring buildings and identical to a nearby residence. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- Function: The building is a good design for its intended use, with a formal façade facing the street.
- Structure: The residence is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect.
- Siting: The residence is located on a flat site. It is located near the utilitarian structures of the complex, but grouped with buildings that once served as residences too.
- Execution: The residence is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses the majority of the features that characterize the complex. It is well situated among other buildings of the same style. Its architectural style is distinctive.

In the area of building design, this residence is considered to have a ranking of excellent. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the residence are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the residence has an excellent ranking.

Building #2003 Main Office

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on the Main Office building: wood board and batten siding, lap siding and wood louvered vents in the gable ends, grouped single-pane awning windows, side-facing gable roof with broad overhanging eaves, brick chimney with banded cap, projecting porch supported on three square posts, and a single story plan. All established character-defining features are present in this building, making it an excellent example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: An addition to the north end of the structure. The porch, which was originally supported by four posts in an asymmetrical arrangement, is now supported by only three.
- Materials: The north addition featured non-historic aluminum sliding windows, which were then replaced with vinyl sliding windows.
- Setting/Context: Signage around the office has been rearranged over the years, though has remained generally the same. Planting areas have been installed and cultivated.
- Layout: The north addition has changed the interior layout of the office.
- Surface Finishes: Major alterations to surface finishes have been made, though later surface treatments in the front office were removed to reveal the original paneling. New doors were installed throughout. Original asbestos tile floors remain in the bathrooms.
- Fixtures: Original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms, though modern electrical fixtures have been installed throughout the office.

The north addition is a major alteration that affects both the exterior and interior of the building. Aside from this, the exterior has good integrity. The major alterations to surface finishes on the interior degrade the integrity, however the restoration of some original finishes and the remaining original fixtures result in an over all ranking of fair for the interior of the Main Office.

Building Design Evaluation:

- **Form:** The Main Office had a symmetrical composition that was altered. It is broken near the center by a projecting porch, enforcing the idea of a formal entry. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- **Function:** The building is a good design for its intended use. The central entry serves the concept of a main office/reception space well.
- **Structure:** The Main Office is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect.
- **Siting:** The Main Office is located on a flat site near the street. It faces the street and sits beside the main entrance to the complex, as is appropriate to a Main Office. It sits at the complex' s north edge rather than at its center, however.
- **Execution:** The Main Office is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses the majority of the features that characterize the complex. It is well situated and has the “street presence” to represent the Ranger Station to visitors, as is its intended purpose. Its architectural style is fairly distinctive.

In the area of building design, the Main Office is considered to have a ranking of excellent. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the Main Office are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the Main Office has a good ranking.

Building #2005 Fire Management Office

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on the Fire Management Office building: wood board and batten siding, lap siding and wood louvered vents in the gable ends, side-facing gable roof, brick chimney with banded cap, inset porch supported on a square post, and a single story plan. Many established character-defining features are present in this building, with the exception of the typical windows, which have been replaced with aluminum and vinyl sliding windows, and the lack of characteristic broad eaves on all elevations. Thus, this building is a fair example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: No alterations have been made.
- Materials: Window replacement using aluminum sliding windows and vinyl windows.
- Setting/Context: Paved parking areas about the building on two sides, making for limited landscaping.
- Layout: A sliding glass door partitions the office space. The fireplace has been covered over.
- Surface Finishes: Major alterations to surface finishes including carpet and wall paneling, plus new cabinet surfaces in bathroom.
- Fixtures: Original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms, though modern electrical fixtures have been installed throughout the office.

The exterior of the building has good integrity with the exception of the window replacement, which is considered a fairly drastic alteration. The major alterations to surface finishes on the interior degrade the integrity; however, the remaining original fixtures result in an overall ranking of poor for the interior of the Fire Management Office.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The Fire Management Office has a regular composition though unremarkable. The entry is undefined. The inset porch at the southwest corner is no longer used as the main entry and is relatively obscure. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- Function: The building is a utilitarian design for its intended use as a general office space.
- Structure: The Fire Management Office is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect.
- Siting: The Fire Management Office is located on a flat site, the majority of which is paved. It does not have the vegetated surroundings that the other buildings do. It sits at the complex's northern edge.
- Execution: The Fire Management Office is sturdily built and quite functional. It possesses many of the features that characterize the complex, though in fairly unremarkable forms. Its architectural distinction is questionable.

In the area of building design, the Fire Management Office is considered to have a ranking of good. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the Fire Management Office are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the Fire Management Office has a good ranking.

Building #2017 Army Corps of Engineers Office

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on the Army Corps of Engineers Office: wood board and batten siding, lap siding and wood louvered vents in the gable ends, grouped single-pane

awning windows, gable roof, brick chimney with banded cap, inset porch supported on double square posts, and a single story plan with a garage attached by a breezeway. Most established character-defining features are present in this building, making it an excellent example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- **Building form:** An addition to the south end of the east elevation, opposite the garage, gives the building a U-shaped plan.
- **Materials:** Some vinyl sliding windows have been installed on the west elevation.
- **Setting/Context:** No alterations to landscaping or other site-related features have been made.
- **Layout:** The plan has been greatly altered by the addition on the east elevation, and the removal and addition of partition walls.
- **Surface Finishes:** Major alterations to surface finishes have been made, including new carpeting and non-historic wood paneling on the walls. Cabinet surfaces in the bathroom have also been replaced.
- **Fixtures:** Original plumbing fixtures remain in the bathrooms.

The addition is a major alteration that affects both the exterior and interior of the building. Aside from this, the exterior has fair integrity. The major alterations to surface finishes on the interior and the added space of the east addition degrade the integrity, resulting in an over all ranking of poor for the interior of the Army Corps of Engineers Office.

Building Design Evaluation:

- **Form:** The office had a character-defining composition that was altered, destroying its intended form and its relation to similar buildings. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures, however.
- **Function:** The building had a good design for its intended use as a residence. Major alterations to the plan have achieved only passable appropriateness for use as an office.
- **Structure:** The office is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect.
- **Siting:** The office is located on a flat site near the street. It faces the street and sits beside the main entrance to the complex.
- **Execution:** The office is sturdily built and functional. It possesses many of the features that characterize the complex. It is well situated and its architectural style is fairly distinctive.

In the area of building design, the Army Corps of Engineers Office is considered to have a ranking of good. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the office are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the office has a fair ranking.

Building #2314 Conference Building

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on the Conference Building: wood board and batten siding, lap siding and wood louvered vents in the gable ends, side-facing gable roof, and a single story plan. Only a few established character-defining features are present in this building. The typical window type is supplanted by aluminum sliding windows, the broad overhanging eaves are relatively absent, there is no chimney (partially due to the building's intended use), and there is no porch. All of this contributes to making it a poor example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

- Building form: This building once acted as a warehouse and truck shed. The enclosure of the four bays amounts to critical alterations in the building's form.
- Materials: Aluminum windows and metal doors are not replacements, but did not exist on this buildings originally.
- Setting/Context: Paving abuts this building on the west side and little landscape surrounds it.
- Layout: The plan has been greatly altered by the enclosure and partitioning of the four original bays.
- Surface Finishes: Major alterations to surface finishes have been made, including the installation of carpeting and other modern materials that make the interior appropriate for modern uses, but were not present when the building was used as a warehouse.
- Fixtures: Non-historic plumbing and electrical fixtures have been installed to make the interior appropriate for modern uses, but were not present when the building was used as a warehouse.

The change in use and subsequent conversion is a major alteration that affects both the exterior and interior of the building. The addition of windows and doors has degraded the exterior integrity to poor. The major alterations to surface finishes on the interior and the change in spatial configuration results in an over all ranking of poor for the interior of the Army Corps of Engineers Office.

Building Design Evaluation:

- Form: The Conference Building had an appropriate composition defined by use that was altered, destroying its intended form. The scale is appropriate to the site and surrounding structures, however.
- Function: The building had a good design for its intended use as a warehouse. Major alterations to the plan have achieved only passable appropriateness for use as conference rooms.
- Structure: The Conference Building is in good condition and appears to have withstood use and the elements well. It shows few signs of structural defect.

- **Siting:** The Conference Building is located on a flat site at the northeast corner of the complex. It is in direct view of the main entrance to the complex, perhaps degrading from the overall visual impression of the complex.
- **Execution:** The Conference Building is sturdily built and functional. It possesses few of the features that characterize the complex, however. It is not well situated and its architectural style is not very distinctive.

In the area of building design, the Conference Building is considered to have a ranking of poor. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the Conference Building are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the Conference Building has a poor ranking.

Building #2506 Modular Office

Character-Defining Feature Evaluation:

The following character-defining features are present on the Modular Office building: lap siding and (faux) wood louvered vents in the gable ends, side-facing gable roof, and a single story plan. Very few established character-defining features are present in this building. The wall covering consists of T-111 siding, the typical window type is supplanted by aluminum sliding windows, the broad overhanging eaves are relatively absent, there is no chimney or porch. All of this contributes to making it a poor example of stylistic character.

Interior and Exterior Integrity Evaluation:

The integrity of the Modular Office building is inconsequential, as it is not a historic structure. Constructed in 1981, it has had little opportunity for change or alteration. Being less than 50 years old, however; it has no historic integrity.

Building Design Evaluation:

- **Form:** The Modular Office has a passably appropriate composition for its use as a general office building. The scale is slightly overlarge and blockish to be appropriate to the site and surrounding structures.
- **Function:** The building had an acceptable design for its intended use as an office.
- **Structure:** The Modular Office is in good condition, though it is noted that the foundation system is weak and may become problematic in certain situations. The modular construction technique puts convenience over quality.
- **Siting:** The Modular Office is located on a site that slopes steeply at the southeast corner of the building. It sits at the relative center of the complex and may act to disrupt the continuity of the historic aesthetic.

- Execution: The Modular Office was quickly and conveniently built and functional, though quality of construction may be lacking. It possesses few of the features that characterize the complex. It is not well situated and its architectural style is has little distinction.

In the area of building design, the Modular Office is considered to have a ranking of poor. When the results of the three evaluative tests for the Modular Office are considered against those of other buildings in the complex, it is seen that the Modular Office has a poor ranking.

Evaluation Summary

The following table summarizes this prototype evaluation of the Lowell Ranger Station buildings. Until a context for post-WWII Forest Service architecture is written and an evaluation model is developed, objective evaluation of these structures will remain difficult.

Building	Character-Defining Features	Exterior Integrity	Interior Integrity	Design Individual Ranking	Design Overall Ranking	National Register Findings
Bldg 1035 Residence	Excellent	Excellent	Fair	Excellent	Excellent	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 1036 Watershed Council Office	Good	Excellent	Poor	Good	Fair	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 1037 Residence	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 1075 Residence	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 1076 Residence	Excellent	Good	---	Excellent	Excellent	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 2003 Main Office	Excellent	Good	Fair	Excellent	Good	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 2005 Fire Management Office	Fair	Good	Poor	Good	Good	Lacks Distinction
Bldg 2017 Army Corps of Engineers Office	Excellent	Fair	Poor	Good	Fair	Irretrievable
Bldg 2314 Conference Building	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Poor	Irretrievable
Bldg 2506 Modular Office	—	—	---	Poor	Poor	Less than 50

When considered together, the complex has fair integrity and distinction. The residences have the best integrity and the most stylistic value, while the office buildings and utilitarian structures have been the most altered and are the least architecturally distinctive. This fits the patterns of use and continued operation of these buildings, but degrades the overall historic integrity of the complex. Alterations have played a major part in this degradation of integrity, as buildings like the Conference Building would have much higher “worth” had they not been changed so dramatically. Unfortunately, these alterations are critical and relatively irreversible. Those buildings that remain intact have historical value, but not so much that they outweigh a general lack of distinction and the irreversible alterations to the complex around them.

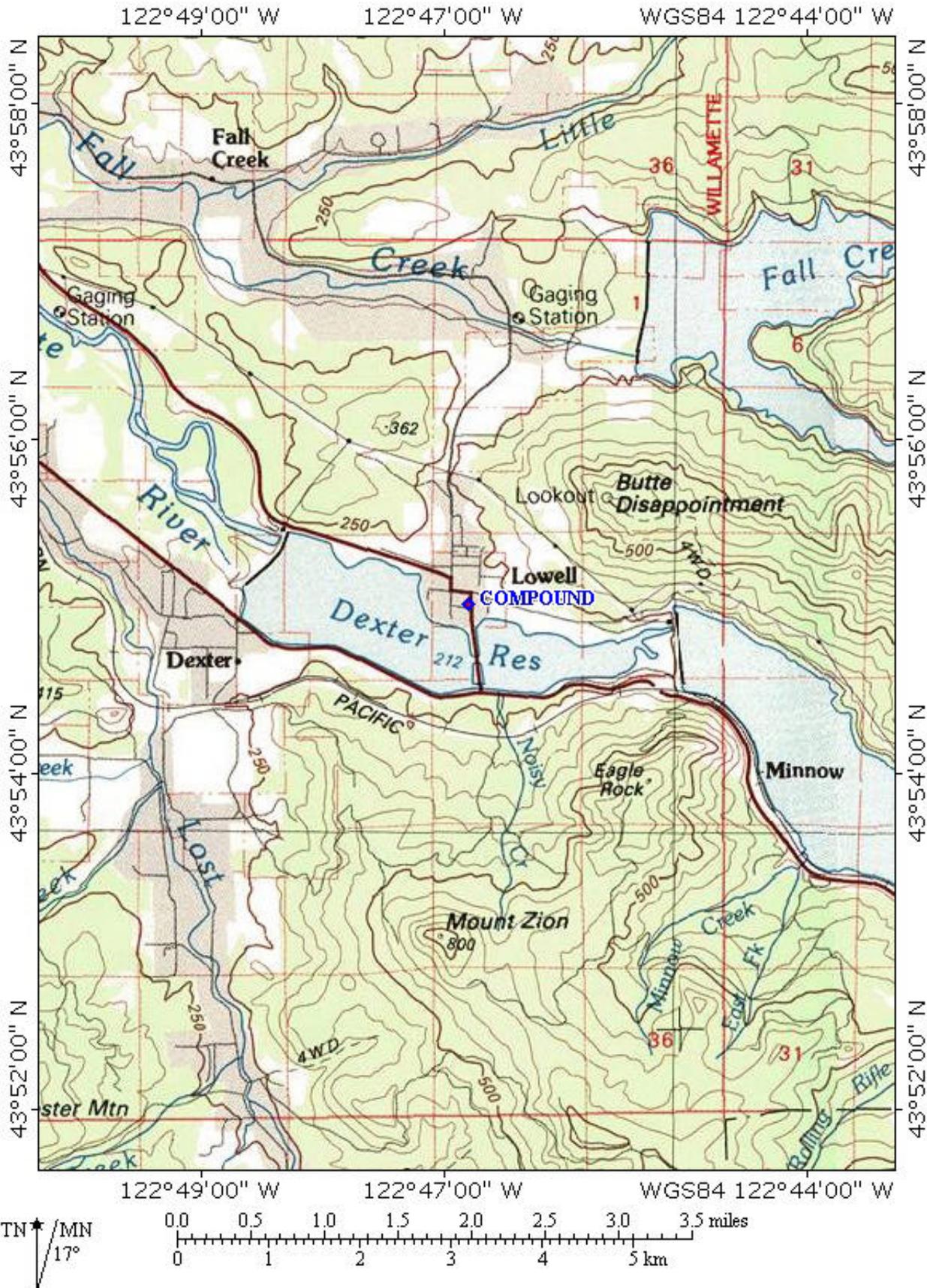


Figure 01. Lowell, Oregon topo map (1984/1986) showing the location within the region of the Lowell Ranger Station.

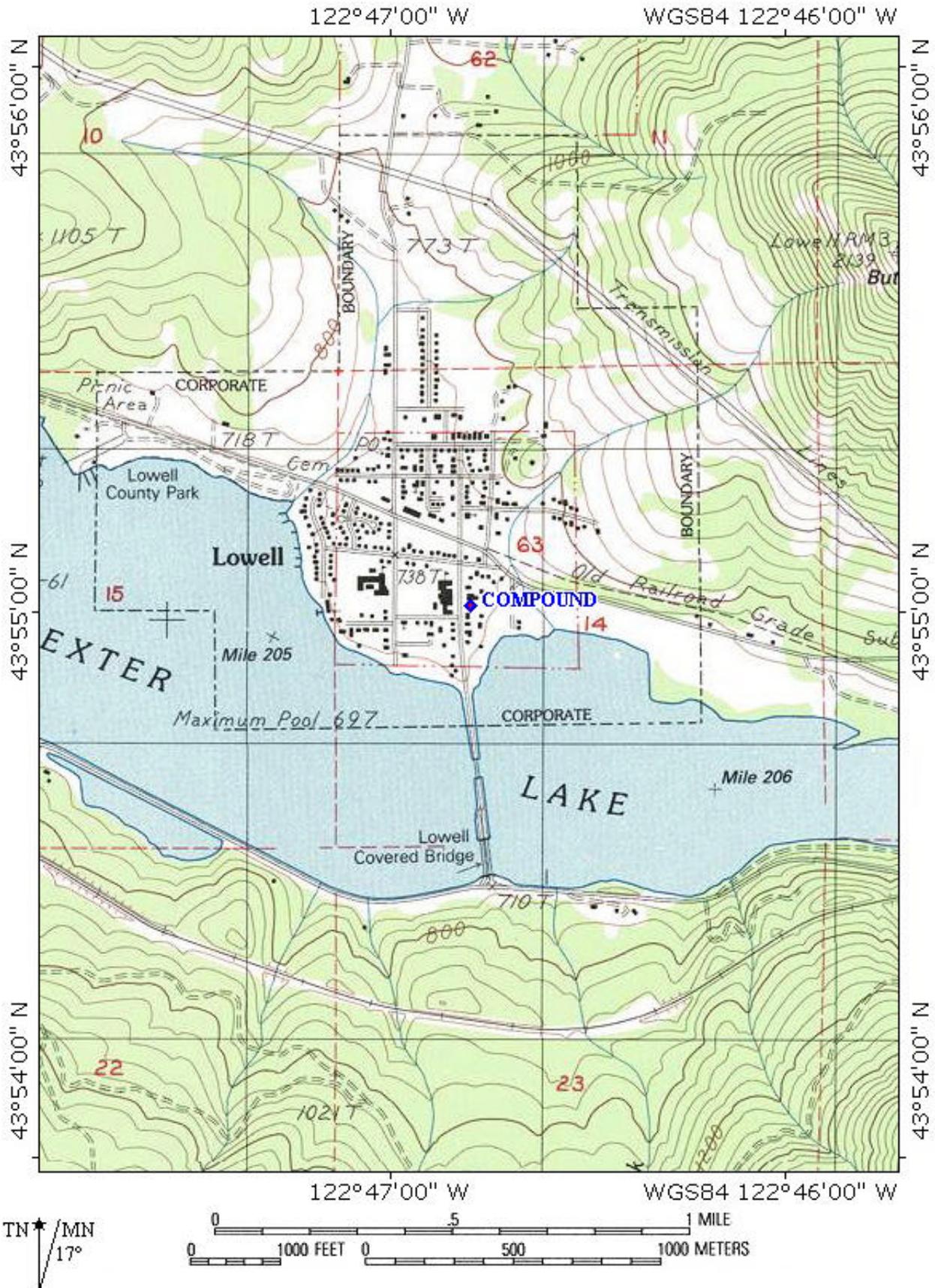


Figure 02. Lowell, Oregon 7.5 minute topo map (1984/1986) showing the location of the Lowell Ranger Station.



Figure 03. Aerial photo from 1979 showing the Lowell Ranger Station compound with blue numbers corresponding to the buildings and forms. Main Office is #6.



Figure 04. Looking northeast towards the Lowell Ranger Station in 1953.



Figure 05. Looking northeast towards the Lowell Ranger Station in 1957.

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 1035 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Other - vacant	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Garage door replacement; kitchen and bathrooms; furnace reconfig; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning and wood casement	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Board & batten Secondary: NA Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Hipped gable (gabled) / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **1**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 1035 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>This residence was built in 1953 as one of the original structures in the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It is located within a group of three residential structures on the west side of Pioneer Street. The front of the house is oriented toward the east and Pioneer Street. The site on which the house sits is flat and landscaped primarily with grass. Three deciduous trees are located on the north side of the house, one deciduous tree is located to the west, and a mature holly tree is located at the southwest corner of the garage.</p> <p>The house is one-story in height, with an attic, and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a concrete foundation with a small crawlspace underneath. The footprint of the building is L-shaped, including the garage, which is attached to the house by a breezeway. The building as a whole is approximately 46' wide and 55' deep. The house is of wood frame, platform construction, with diagonal sheathing, as is seen exposed on the interior walls of the garage. The exterior walls of the house are clad with rough sawn, board and batten siding.</p> <p>The gable-on-hip roof is covered with composition shingles and has louvered wood vents in the gable ends. A brick chimney protrudes from the center of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The inset porch is supported at the corner by paired square posts. Windows in the house consist of single-pane, wood awning and casement windows arranged in groupings of two and three. These are covered by non-original storm windows on the exterior and many are fitted with original roll down screens on the interior. Door replacement has occurred on the garage, though other doors appear to be original, including the entry door that is made of heavy planks constructed with tongue and groove joinery.</p> <p>The house has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, kitchen and entry vestibule. Two types of flooring exist, including non-original carpet in the living spaces and linoleum in the entry, kitchen and bathrooms. Interior walls and ceilings are finished with drywall and painted, with the exception of the west wall of the living room, which is finished with original wood paneling. Cabinetry and built-ins within the house are original, but have been refinished with Formica surfaces and non-original hardware in the kitchen and bathrooms. Closets are enclosed by sliding bi-fold doors with cabinets above. The majority of the fixtures in the house, including a porcelain laundry sink in the entry, are original. The fireplace, which opens into the living room, is made of Roman brick with unique vent-like details. A non-original stove insert has been fitted into the firebox. The heating system for the house has been replaced and relocated to the attic. A prominent heat pump is now located on the west exterior elevation to serve this equipment.</p> <p>This building is in good condition and has excellent integrity on the exterior and good integrity on the interior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. Their boundaries were determined by logical geographic delineation. This created five ranger districts, including the West Boundary, Oakridge, McKenzie Bridge, Detroit, and Cascadia.</p> <p>After World War II, there was a pronounced growth in the operations of the Forest Service that lasted into the 1960s and encompassed the time when the Lowell Ranger Station came into being. This time was marked by intensive forest management to increase production of the land in terms of lumber and recreational uses, necessitating the development of facilities and infrastructure within the forests. Management of the Forest Service became more centralized as individual, and until then largely independent, district and regional entities were encouraged to lo... (cont.)</p>	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 1035 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.



Building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 1035 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...ok to higher government bodies for the resolution of problems. At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to create even more districts to serve local areas.

The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

In fact, one of these reservoirs had a direct impact on the West Boundary Ranger Station and made the construction of the current Lowell Ranger Station necessary. In 1954, the Lookout Point Dam was erected, which resulted in the planned flooding of the area occupied by the West Boundary facility. It became the Army Corps of Engineers' responsibility to build a new US Forest Service facility in an alternate location. Therefore, in 1953, the new facility at Lowell was constructed. Inspection reports from 1957 detail the property as two plots of land on the east and west sides of Pioneer Street in the Meadows Addition to Lowell. These plots of land were acquired respectively by purchase from A.W. and Lee Wetleau, and obtained in a court case against J.B. and Claire W. Loftus and James C. Cougill in 1950. The land was undeveloped before it came into government ownership. The eastern portion of the property consisted of 2.34 acres and came to include the ranger station buildings and related facilities, as well as two "modern" residences. The western portion was comprised of 0.98 acres and also came to include two "modern" residences. The property continued to be controlled by the Army Corps of Engineers; however, in 1958, negotiations were conducted for the transfer of the facility to the Forest Service while the Army Corps retained ownership of the land.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was a pronounced shortage of housing within Forest Service facilities and efforts were made to acquire, transplant, or build housing for needy ranger stations. Within a five-year period after 1951, design and construction was achieved at a number of Region 6 ranger stations, including Lowell. A.P. DiBenedetto, a Forest Service architect at the time, can be credited for assisting in the design of the original buildings at the Lowell Ranger Station. Vik Construction Company, a prominent contractor operating out of Eugene, was responsible for the actual building of the complex.

Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element was seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

In the proliferation of 1950s-era construction, common building templates came to be used. Standardized plans were used in the construction of both office buildings and residences. Therefore, the main office building at the Lowell Ranger Station may have a standardized plan, as it is evident that the residences utilize at least two common plan types within the compound itself. The Lowell Ranger Station complex has changed relatively little since the 1950s. The loss of a warehouse building, which burned recently, and the construction of a modular office building in 1981, have accounted for the most drastic changes to the complex. Some buildings have been converted from residences to offices, while others have experienced minor additions and remodeling.

The architectural elements of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrates a post-WWII era in Forest Service architecture, one that represents a major shift from the architecture of the Depression era. The CCC buildings of the 1930s were seen as having great stylistic value, while later post-WWII constructions are considered to have diminished in architectural style and construction quality. DiBenedetto cited this circumstance as due to the loss of quality craftsmanship that was available during the Depression. It was overwhelmed by a lack of money and a desire for expediency that resulted in greater building convenience, but less character in Forest Service architecture. Despite this, the original buildings of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a trend in both construction practices and facility requirements of the US Forest Service in the 1950s.

Sources:

McArthur, Lewis L. "Oregon Geographic Names." Seventh Edition. Portland, OR: Oregon Historical Society, 1992.
McClure, Richard. A.P. "Benny" DiBenedetto: Oral History Interview. Portland, OR. August 18, 2004.
Online Highways. "Lowell Oregon." 2004. Available at <http://www.ohwy.com/or/lowell.htm>, as of September 24, 2004.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Inspection Reports, Lookout Point Reservoir Project. Portland, OR. 1953-1957.
U.S.D.A., Forest Service. Report on Proposed Administrative Site. July 1908.
Willamette National Forest History from Flat Creek and North Fork Survey.

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 1036 Watershed Council Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Government - office	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Interior reconfigured; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Board & batten Secondary: Lap Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Hipped gable (gabled) / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **2**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 1036 Watershed Council Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>This building was constructed in 1953 as one of the original structures in the Lowell Ranger Station complex and is one of the three oldest buildings. It was originally used as a residence and now serves as an office and meeting space for the Watershed Council. The structure is located on the east side of Pioneer Street. The front entry is oriented toward the north and the non-historic modular office building. The site on which the building sits slopes downward steeply at the east end of the structure, allowing for a daylight basement. The site is landscaped primarily with grass with a mature pine and maple in close proximity to the west end of the building.</p> <p>The building is one-story in height, with a basement, and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a poured concrete foundation that houses a finished basement, containing multiple rooms that were once used for residential purposes, later offices, and are now unused. The footprint of the building is rectangular, with a small porch projection at the center of the north elevation. The building as a whole is approximately 52' long and 25' deep. The building is of wood frame, platform construction. The exterior walls are clad with rough sawn, board and batten siding.</p> <p>The gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has wood lap siding in the gable ends as well as wood louvered vents at the gable peak. A brick chimney protrudes from the south side of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The porch is supported by simple square posts. Windows in the house consist primarily of single-pane, wood awning. These are covered by non original storm windows on the exterior and many are fitted with original roll down screens on the interior. Exterior doors appear to be original, including the entry door that is made of heavy planks constructed with tongue and groove joinery. Many interior doors have been added or replaced.</p> <p>The building has experienced many interior alterations. It has four general spaces (that may have once been bedrooms), one bathroom, a living room, kitchen and entry vestibule. In the bedrooms, closets have been removed and interior windows installed, while a wall appears to have been added to divide the entry from the living room. A door between the bathroom and kitchen has been closed off and a secondary wall installed. Another wall across from the bedrooms may have been removed to create a meeting space. The fireplace has been paneled over, though this change is easily reversible.</p> <p>Three types of flooring exist, including non-original carpet, linoleum in the kitchen and bathrooms, and original wood floors in the entry and living room. Interior walls are finished with non-original, painted, wood paneling, with the exception of the south wall of the living room, which is finished with original wood paneling. Cabinetry and built-ins within the building are original, but have been refinished with Formica surfaces and non-original hardware in the kitchen and bathrooms. The majority of the fixtures in the house, including bathroom sinks, toilet and bathtub, are original.</p> <p>This building is in good condition. It has excellent integrity on the exterior, but poor integrity inside.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. 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OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 1036 Watershed Council Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.



North side of building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 1036 Watershed Council Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

... recreational uses, necessitating the development of facilities and infrastructure within the forests. Management of the Forest Service became more centralized as individual, and until then largely independent, district and regional entities were encouraged to look to high government bodies for the resolution of problems. At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to create even more districts to serve local areas.

The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

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Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element can be seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

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The architectural elements of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a post-WWII era in Forest Service architecture, one that represents a major shift from the architecture of the Depression era. The CCC buildings of the 1930s were seen as having great stylistic value, while later post-WWII constructions are considered to have diminished in architectural style and construction quality. DiBenedetto cited this circumstance as due to the loss of quality craftsmanship that was available during the Depression. It was overwhelmed by a lack of money and a desire for expediency that resulted in greater building convenience, but less character in Forest Service architecture. Despite this, the original buildings of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a trend in both construction practices and facility requirements of the US Forest Service in the 1950s.

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U.S.D.A., Forest Service. Report on Proposed Administrative Site. July 1908.
Willamette National Forest History from Flat Creek and North Fork Survey.

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 1037 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Other - vacant	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Garage door replacement; kitchen and bathrooms; furnace reconfig; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning and wood casement	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Vertical tongue & groove Secondary: NA Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Hipped gable (gabled) / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **3**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 1037 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>This residence was built in 1953 as one of the original structures in the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It is located within a group of three residential structures on the west side of Pioneer Street. The front of the house is oriented toward the east and Pioneer Street. The site on which the house sits is flat and landscaped primarily with grass. Three deciduous trees are located around the house, with one fir tree located on the south side of the building.</p> <p>The house is one-story in height, with an attic, and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a concrete foundation with a small crawlspace underneath. The footprint of the building is L-shaped, including the garage, which is attached to the house by a breezeway. The building as a whole is approximately 46' wide and 55' deep. The house is of wood frame, platform construction, with diagonal sheathing. The exterior walls of the house are clad with rough sawn, vertical, tongue and groove shiplap siding.</p> <p>The gable-on-hip roof is covered with composition shingles and has louvered wood vents in the gable ends. A brick chimney protrudes from the center of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The inset porch is supported at the corner by paired square posts. Windows in the house consist of single-pane, wood awning and casement windows arranged in groupings of two and three. These are covered by non-original storm windows on the exterior and many are fitted with original roll down screens on the interior. Doors appear to be original, including the entry door that is made of heavy planks constructed with tongue and groove joinery. A pocket door separates the living room from the kitchen.</p> <p>The house has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, kitchen and entry vestibule. Three types of flooring exist, including non original carpet in the bedrooms, linoleum in the entry, kitchen and bathrooms, and wood parquet floor in the living room. (There is some water damage to this flooring near the fireplace.) Interior walls and ceilings are finished with drywall and painted, with the exception of the east wall of the living room, which is finished with original wood paneling. Cabinetry and built-ins within the house are original, but have been refinished with Formica surfaces and non-original hardware in the kitchen and bathrooms. Closets are enclosed by sliding bi-fold doors with cabinets above. The majority of the fixtures in the house, including a porcelain laundry sink in the entry, are original. The fireplace, which opens into the living room, is made of Roman brick with unique vent-like details. A non-original grate insert has been fitted into the firebox. The heating system for the house has been replaced and relocated to the attic. 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OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 1037 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.



Front of building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 1037 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

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In the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was a pronounced shortage of housing within Forest Service facilities and efforts were made to acquire, transplant, or build housing for needy ranger stations. Within a five-year period after 1951, design and construction was achieved at a number of Region 6 ranger stations, including Lowell. A.P. DiBenedetto, a Forest Service architect at the time, can be credited for assisting in the design of the original buildings at the Lowell Ranger Station. Vik Construction Company, a prominent contractor operating out of Eugene, was responsible for the actual building of the complex.

Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element was seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

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Sources:

- McArthur, Lewis L. "Oregon Geographic Names." Seventh Edition. Portland, OR: Oregon Historical Society, 1992.
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**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 1075 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Other - vacant	Date of Construction: 1959
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Kitchen and bathrooms; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning and wood casement	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Vertical rabbetted Secondary: NA Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **4**



Preliminary National Register Finding	
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register listed	Potentially Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> Individually <input type="checkbox"/> As part of District
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/> In current state <input type="checkbox"/> Irretrievable integrity loss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lacks distinction <input type="checkbox"/> Not 50 years
State Historic Preservation Office Comments:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concur	<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Concur:
<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Eligible Individually	<input type="checkbox"/> Potentially Eligible as part of District <input type="checkbox"/> Not Eligible
Signed _____	Date _____
Comments:	

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 1075 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service	
Address:	
City, State, ZIP:	
Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>This residence was built in 1959 as an addition to the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It is located within a group of three residential structures on the west side of Pioneer Street. The front of the house is oriented toward the east and the back of building #1037. The site on which the house sits is flat and landscaped primarily with grass. Four mature deciduous trees and one fir tree are located to the west of the house.</p> <p>The house is one-story in height, with an attic, and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a concrete foundation with a small crawlspace underneath. The footprint of the building is roughly rectangular, including the carport, which is attached to the west side of the house. The building as a whole is approximately 64' wide and 30' deep. The house is of wood frame, platform construction, with diagonal sheathing. The exterior walls of the house are clad with rabbetted, rough sawn vertical boards.</p> <p>The gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has rectangular, louvered vents in the gable ends. It has overhanging eaves with wide bargeboards and enclosed soffits, as well as new gutter and downspouts. A brick chimney protrudes from the west side of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The inset porch is supported by a single square post. Windows in the house consist of single-pane, wood awning and casement windows arranged in groupings of two and three. These are covered by non-original storm windows on the exterior and many are fitted with original roll down screens on the interior. Doors appear to be original throughout.</p> <p>The house has three bedrooms, a bathroom, a living room/dining room and kitchen. Three types of flooring exist, including carpet in the living spaces, linoleum in the kitchen and bathroom, and original wood floors in the living room/dining room. The wood floor consists of short, narrow oak strips and is inset with non-original floor vents. Interior walls and ceilings are finished with drywall and painted, with the exception of the north wall of the living room, which is finished with original wood paneling. Cabinetry and built-ins within the house are original, but have been refinished with Formica surfaces and non-original hardware in the kitchen and bathrooms. Closets are enclosed by sliding bi-fold doors with cabinets above, some of which are replacements. Original wood accordion doors conceal the laundry area in the kitchen. The majority of the fixtures in the house, including the toilet and tub in the bathroom and the laundry sink in the kitchen, are original. The fireplace, which opens into the living room, is made of Roman brick with unique vent-like details.</p> <p>This building is in good condition and has excellent integrity on the exterior and good integrity on the interior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. Their boundaries were determined by logical geographic delineation. This created five ranger districts, including the West Boundary, Oakridge, McKenzie Bridge, Detroit, and Cascadia.</p> <p>After World War II, there was a pronounced growth in the operations of the Forest Service that lasted into the 1960s and encompassed the time when the Lowell Ranger Station came into being. This time was marked by intensive forest management to increase production of the land in terms of lumber and recreational uses, necessitating the development of facilities and infrastructure within the forests. Management of the Forest Service became more centralized as individual, and until then largely independent, district and regional entities were encouraged to look to higher government bodies for the resolution of problems. At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to create even more dist... (cont.)</p>	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 1075 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 1075 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...ricts to serve local areas.

The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

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In the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was a pronounced shortage of housing within Forest Service facilities and efforts were made to acquire, transplant, or build housing for needy ranger stations. Within a five-year period after 1951, design and construction was achieved at a number of Region 6 ranger stations, including Lowell. A.P. DiBenedetto, a Forest Service architect at the time, can be credited for assisting in the design of the original buildings at the Lowell Ranger Station. Viking Construction Company, a prominent contractor operating out of Eugene, was responsible for the actual building of the complex.

Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element can be seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

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The architectural elements of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a post-WWII era in Forest Service architecture, one that represents a major shift from the architecture of the Depression era. The CCC buildings of the 1930s were seen as having great stylistic value, while later post-WWII constructions are considered to have diminished in architectural style and construction quality. DiBenedetto cited this circumstance as due to the loss of quality craftsmanship that was available during the Depression. It was overwhelmed by a lack of money and a desire for expediency that resulted in greater building convenience, but less character in Forest Service architecture. Despite this, the original buildings of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a trend in both construction practices and facility requirements of the US Forest Service in the 1950s.

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**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 1076 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Domestic - single dwelling	Date of Construction: 1959
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Enclosed carport space; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning and wood casement	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Vertical rabbetted Secondary: NA Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **5**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 1076 Residence	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>This residence was built in 1959 as an addition to the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It is located on the east side of Pioneer Street. The front of the house is oriented toward the west and Pioneer Street. The site on which the house sits is flat and landscaped primarily with grass. Various deciduous trees are located around the house, including a mature maple in the front yard.</p> <p>The house is one-story in height and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a concrete foundation. The footprint of the building is roughly rectangular, including the enclosed garage (once a carport) that is attached to the south end of the house. The building as a whole is approximately 64' wide and 30' deep. The house is of wood frame, platform construction. The exterior walls of the house are clad with rabbetted, rough sawn vertical board siding.</p> <p>The gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has rectangular, louvered vents in the gable ends. It has overhanging eaves with wide bargeboards and enclosed soffits, as well as new gutter and downspouts. A brick chimney protrudes from the east side of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The inset porch is supported by a single square post. Windows in the house consist of single-pane, wood awning and casement windows arranged in groupings of two and three. These are covered by non-original storm windows on the exterior and many are fitted with original roll down screens on the interior. Doors appear to be original throughout.</p> <p>The house was inaccessible at the time of survey; however, it is known to have the same plan as building #1075 and built in the same year. Accordingly, it has three bedrooms, one bathroom, a living room/dining room and kitchen. Interior surfaces, finishes and other elements are unknown.</p> <p>This building is in excellent condition and has good integrity on the exterior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. 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OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 1076 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 1076 Residence**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...r: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

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Willamette National Forest History from Flat Creek and North Fork Survey.

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 2003 Main Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Government - office	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Extension of north end; interior reconfigured; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning and wood casement	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Board & batten Secondary: Lap Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

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SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 2003 Main Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>The main office of the Lowell Ranger Station was built in 1953 as one of the original structures in the complex and is one of the three oldest buildings. It is located on the east side of Pioneer Street, at the north side of the property. The front of the office is oriented toward the west and Pioneer Street. The site on which the building sits is flat and landscaped with planting areas bordered by pressure treated wood beams. Three deciduous trees are located at the front corners of the building.</p> <p>The office is one-story in height and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a concrete foundation with a small crawlspace underneath. The footprint of the building is roughly rectangular. Originally symmetrical, a compatible addition was made to the north end of the structure, elongating one side of the building. The structure as a whole is approximately 70' wide and 28' deep. The building is of wood frame, platform construction with diagonal sheathing, as seen in historic photos of its construction. The exterior walls are clad with rough sawn, board and batten siding.</p> <p>The gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has wood lap siding and louvered wood vents in the gable ends. An unusually slender brick chimney protrudes from the east side of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The projecting porch is supported at the corners by paired square posts on the right side and a single square post on the left side. Windows in the office consist of single-pane, wood awning and casement windows arranged in groupings of two and three. Vinyl windows can be found in the addition at the north end. These are replacements of the originals that were installed at the time the addition was constructed. All windows are covered by non-original storm windows on the exterior and many are fitted with original roll down screens on the interior. Door replacement has occurred both on the exterior and interior, though replacements are historically sensitive.</p> <p>The office has six main office spaces and two bathrooms. Two types of flooring exist, including non-original carpet throughout and original linoleum tile in the bathrooms. Interior walls are finished with non-original, painted, wood paneling, with the exception of the walls in the front office and management office, which are finished with original wood paneling. Cabinetry and built-ins within the house are original, but have been refinished with Formica surfaces and non-original hardware in the bathrooms. Some closets are enclosed by original sliding bi-fold doors with cabinets above; while others have had the doors removed and are used as open alcoves. The bathroom fixtures are all original.</p> <p>This building is in excellent condition and has good integrity on the exterior and poor integrity on the interior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. Their boundaries were determined by logical geographic delineation. This created five ranger districts, including the West Boundary, Oakridge, McKenzie Bridge, Detroit, and Cascadia.</p> <p>After World War II, there was a pronounced growth in the operations of the Forest Service that lasted into the 1960s and encompassed the time when the Lowell Ranger Station came into being. This time was marked by intensive forest management to increase production of the land in terms of lumber and recreational uses, necessitating the development of facilities and infrastructure within the forests. Management of the Forest Service became more centralized as individual, and until then largely independent, district and regional entities were encouraged to look to higher government bodies for the resolution of problems. At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to cre... (cont.)</p>	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2003 Main Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.



Front of building in 1957.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2003 Main Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Sheathing building in 1953.



Front of building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 2003 Main Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...ate even more districts to serve local areas.

The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

In fact, one of these reservoirs had a direct impact on the West Boundary Ranger Station and made the construction of the current Lowell Ranger Station necessary. In 1954, the Lookout Point Dam was erected, which resulted in the planned flooding of the area occupied by the West Boundary facility. It became the Army Corps of Engineers' responsibility to build a new US Forest Service facility in an alternate location. Therefore, in 1953, the new facility at Lowell was constructed. Inspection reports from 1957 detail the property as two plots of land on the east and west sides of Pioneer Street in the Meadows Addition to Lowell. These plots of land were acquired respectively by purchase from A.W. and Lee Wetleau, and obtained in a court case against J.B. and Claire W. Loftus and James C. Coughlin in 1950. The land was undeveloped before it came into government ownership. The eastern portion of the property consisted 2.34 acres and came to include the ranger station buildings and related facilities, as well as two "modern" residences. The western portion was comprised of 0.98 acres and also came to include two "modern" residences. The property continued to be controlled by the Army Corps of Engineers; however, in 1958, negotiations were conducted for the transfer of the facility to the Forest Service while the Army Corps retained ownership of the land.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was a pronounced shortage of housing within Forest Service facilities and efforts were made to acquire, transplant, or build housing for needy ranger stations. Within a five-year period after 1951, design and construction was achieved at a number of Region 6 ranger stations, including Lowell. A.P. DiBenedetto, a Forest Service architect at the time, can be credited for assisting in the design of the original buildings at the Lowell Ranger Station. Vik Construction Company, a prominent contractor operating out of Eugene, was responsible for the actual building of the complex.

Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element can be seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

In the proliferation of 1950s-era construction, common building templates came to be used. Standardized plans were used in the construction of both office buildings and residences. Therefore, the main office building at the Lowell Ranger Station may have a standardized plan, as it is evident that the residences utilize at least two common plan types within the compound itself. The Lowell Ranger Station complex has changed relatively little since the 1950s. The loss of a warehouse building, which burned recently, and the construction of a modular office building in 1981, have accounted for the most drastic changes to the complex. Some buildings have been converted from residences to offices, while others have experienced minor additions and remodeling.

The architectural elements of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a post-WWII era in Forest Service architecture, one that represents a major shift from the architecture of the Depression era. The CCC buildings of the 1930s were seen as having great stylistic value, while later post-WWII constructions are considered to have diminished in architectural style and construction quality. DiBenedetto cited this circumstance as due to the loss of quality craftsmanship that was available during the Depression. It was overwhelmed by a lack of money and a desire for expediency that resulted in greater building convenience, but less character in Forest Service architecture. Despite this, the original buildings of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a trend in both construction practices and facility requirements of the US Forest Service in the 1950s.

Sources:

McArthur, Lewis L. "Oregon Geographic Names." Seventh Edition. Portland, OR: Oregon Historical Society, 1992.
McClure, Richard. A.P. "Benny" DiBenedetto: Oral History Interview. Portland, OR. August 18, 2004.
Online Highways. "Lowell Oregon." 2004. Available at <http://www.ohwy.com/or/l/lowell.htm>, as of September 24, 2004.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Inspection Reports, Lookout Point Reservoir Project. Portland, OR. 1953-1957.
U.S.D.A., Forest Service. Report on Proposed Administrative Site. July 1908.
Willamette National Forest History from Flat Creek and North Fork Survey.

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 2005 Fire Management Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Government - office	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Interior reconfigured; window replacement; aluminum storms
Window Type and Material: Aluminum sliders; vinyl sliders	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Board & batten Secondary: Lap Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: 7



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 2005 Fire Management Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>The Fire Management Office was constructed in 1953 as one of the original structures in the Lowell Ranger Station complex and is one of the three oldest buildings. It is located on the east side of Pioneer Street at the north side of the property. The front of the office is oriented toward the south and the center of the complex. The site on which the office sits is flat and primarily paved with asphalt.</p> <p>The building is one-story in height and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. The building sits on a concrete slab foundation. The footprint of the building is rectangular and measures approximately 48' wide and 30' deep. The building is of wood frame, platform construction and the exterior walls are clad with rough sawn, board and batten siding.</p> <p>The gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has wood lap siding and louvered wood vents in the gable ends. A brick chimney protrudes from the north side of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The small inset porch is supported at the corner by a simple square post, while a covered loading dock is located off the east end of the building and is covered by a gable roof supported by square posts. Windows in the office consist of aluminum and vinyl horizontal sliding windows that were installed as replacements in 1995. Door replacement has occurred as well.</p> <p>The office has three primary spaces, a bathroom and kitchenette. Non-original carpet exists throughout, with the exception of linoleum in the bathroom. Interior walls are finished with non-original, painted, wood paneling. Cabinetry in the kitchenette is original, as is likely the refrigerator. The bathroom sink is original, while the toilet is not. One other alteration is the installation of sliding glass doors between two of the primary spaces.</p> <p>This building is in excellent condition and has good integrity on the exterior, but poor integrity on the interior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. Their boundaries were determined by logical geographic delineation. 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At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to create even more districts to serve local areas.</p> <p>The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times</p>	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2005 Fire Management Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.



Front of building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 2005 Fire Management Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...ded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

In fact, one of these reservoirs had a direct impact on the West Boundary Ranger Station and made the construction of the current Lowell Ranger Station necessary. In 1954, the Lookout Point Dam was erected, which resulted in the planned flooding of the area occupied by the West Boundary facility. It became the Army Corps of Engineers' responsibility to build a new US Forest Service facility in an alternate location. Therefore, in 1953, the new facility at Lowell was constructed. Inspection reports from 1957 detail the property as two plots of land on the east and west sides of Pioneer Street in the Meadows Addition to Lowell. These plots of land were acquired respectively by purchase from A.W. and Lee Wetleau, and obtained in a court case against J.B. and Claire W. Loftus and James C. Cougill in 1950. The land was undeveloped before it came into government ownership. The eastern portion of the property consisted 2.34 acres and came to include the ranger station buildings and related facilities, as well as two "modern" residences. The western portion was comprised of 0.98 acres and also came to include two "modern" residences. The property continued to be controlled by the Army Corps of Engineers; however, in 1958, negotiations were conducted for the transfer of the facility to the Forest Service while the Army Corps retained ownership of the land.

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was a pronounced shortage of housing within Forest Service facilities and efforts were made to acquire, transplant, or build housing for needy ranger stations. Within a five-year period after 1951, design and construction was achieved at a number of Region 6 ranger stations, including Lowell. A.P. DiBenedetto, a Forest Service architect at the time, can be credited for assisting in the design of the original buildings at the Lowell Ranger Station. Vik Construction Company, a prominent contractor operating out of Eugene, was responsible for the actual building of the complex.

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Sources:

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U.S.D.A., Forest Service. Report on Proposed Administrative Site. July 1908.
Willamette National Forest History from Flat Creek and North Fork Survey.

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 2017 Army Corps of Engineers Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Government - office	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Vernacular Northwest Regional / Government	Alterations: Addition on rear; window replacement on front; interior reconfiguration
Window Type and Material: Single-pane, wood awning and wood casement	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Board & batten Secondary: Lap Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **8**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District

Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:

Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 2017 Army Corps of Engineers Offi	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>The Army Corps of Engineers Office, which was once a residence, was built in 1953 as one of the original structures in the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It is located on the east side of Pioneer Street. The front of the building is oriented toward the west and Pioneer Street. The site on which the house sits is flat and landscaped primarily with grass. Various fir and deciduous trees are located around the front of the building primarily.</p> <p>The building is one-story in height and is built in a vernacular Northwest style. It sits on a concrete foundation. The footprint of the building was once L-shaped, but is now U-shaped due to an addition to the rear elevation that was constructed circa 1995. This addition mirrors the portion of the building that was originally a garage and is attached to the office by a breezeway. The building as a whole is approximately 42' wide and 60' deep. The house is of wood frame, platform construction and the exterior walls are clad with rough sawn, board and batten siding.</p> <p>The gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has wood lap siding and louvered wood vents in the gable ends. A brick chimney protrudes from the center of the roof and has decorative banding elements at its cap. The inset porch is supported at the corner by paired square posts. Windows in the former house consist of single-pane, wood awning and casement windows arranged groupings of two and three, with the exception of some replacement vinyl sliders on the west elevation. A large set of windows were inserted into a smaller set of windows in the center front early in the building's history. The original windows are covered by non-original storm windows on the exterior.</p> <p>The building has a relatively open plan that denotes many alterations to the interior layout. Non-original carpet is present throughout, as well as non-original linoleum in the bathroom. Interior walls are finished with non-original, painted, wood paneling. Cabinetry in the bathroom is original, but has been refinished with Formica surfaces and non-original hardware. The plumbing fixtures are also original. The fireplace is made of Roman brick with unique vent-like details. A non-original grate insert has been fitted into the firebox.</p> <p>This building is in good to excellent condition. It has fair integrity on the exterior and poor integrity on the interior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. 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OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: Bldg 2017 Army Corps of Engineers Off.	City, County: Lowell, Lane
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Framing building in 1953.



Front of building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2017 Army Corps of Engineers Off.** City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 2017 Army Corps of Engineers Offi**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...ent. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.

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Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element can be seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

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The architectural elements of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a post-WWII era in Forest Service architecture, one that represents a major shift from the architecture of the Depression era. The CCC buildings of the 1930s were seen as having great stylistic value, while later post-WWII constructions are considered to have diminished in architectural style and construction quality. DiBenedetto cited this circumstance as due to the loss of quality craftsmanship that was available during the Depression. It was overwhelmed by a lack of money and a desire for expediency that resulted in greater building convenience, but less character in Forest Service architecture. Despite this, the original buildings of the Lowell Ranger Station demonstrate a trend in both construction practices and facility requirements of the US Forest Service in the 1950s.

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**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 2314 Conference	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Government - office	Date of Construction: 1953
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Utilitarian / Government	Alterations: Four garage bays sided over; interior reconfigured
Window Type and Material: Aluminum sliders	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Board & batten Secondary: Lap Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **9**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District

Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:

Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 2314 Conference	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
<p>PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION</p> <p>The Conference Building was built in 1953 as one of the original structures in the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It was originally a four-bay warehouse and truck shed, but now serves as a conference room. The structure is located at the back of the complex on the east side of Pioneer Street. The front of the building is oriented toward the west and the Fire Management Office. The site on which the building sits is flat and landscaped primarily with grass on the east and paved with asphalt on the west.</p> <p>The building is one-story in height, and is built in a utilitarian style that is compatible with the Northwest style of the other buildings in the complex. It sits on a concrete slab foundation. Concrete ramps abut the foundation near the entrances, denoting the original location of larger warehouse doors. The footprint of the building is rectangular and measures approximately 90' wide and 30' deep. The building is of wood frame, platform construction, with diagonal sheathing. The exterior walls are clad with board and batten siding.</p> <p>The side-facing gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has wood lap siding and louvered wood vents in the gable ends. Two metal vents protrude from the west side of the roof. No porch exists and instead, four non-original doors provide direct entry into each of the bays of the structure. Windows in the building consist of aluminum sash horizontal sliding windows. Small shed structures are tacked onto the north and east elevations of the building.</p> <p>The building retains its four-bay interior layout, which is still distinguishable from both inside and outside. Non-original carpet exists throughout. Interior walls and ceilings are finished with drywall and painted.</p> <p>This building is in excellent condition, but has poor integrity both on the exterior and on the interior.</p> <p>COMPOUND HISTORY</p> <p>In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960.</p> <p>When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho.</p> <p>In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. Their boundaries were determined by logical geographic delineation. This created five ranger districts, including the West Boundary, Oakridge, McKenzie Bridge, Detroit, and Cascadia.</p> <p>After World War II, there was a pronounced growth in the operations of the Forest Service that lasted into the 1960s and encompassed the time when the Lowell Ranger Station came into being. This time was marked by intensive forest management to increase production of the land in terms of lumber and recreational uses, necessitating the development of facilities and infrastructure within the forests. Management of the Forest Service became more centralized as individual, and until then largely independent, district and regional entities were encouraged to look to higher government bodies for the resolution of problems. At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to create even more districts to serve local areas.</p> <p>The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek. ... (cont.)</p>	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2314 Conference**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.



Framing building in 1953.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2314 Conference**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Front of building in 1953.



Front of building circa 1975.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 2314 Conference**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

...

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Construction of Forest Service buildings in the post-WWII era was determined largely by politics and Congress. Standard regulations limited residences to a thousand square feet. Forest Service architects attempted to create efficient, yet interesting plans within these limitations. Surveys were even done to take into account the preferences and use patterns of Forest Service housewives, in the hope that ranger station residences could be made as comfortable and user-friendly as possible. Because of space limitations, certain conventions were utilized. For instance, windows were arranged in horizontal bands set in the upper portions of walls. This element can be seen in the Lowell structures and allowed for more freedom in the placement of furniture on the interior of the houses. Materials were also standardized among Forest Service buildings. In the post-WWII era, plywood and T-111 siding became prevalent, though more traditional board and batten siding was preferred. Cedar was typically used for this application because it weathered better than fir. Fortunately, the Forest Service ideal of creating buildings that were aesthetically compatible with their forested environment was retained.

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**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Agency/Project: USDA Forest Service / Lowell Ranger Station	
Street Address: Bldg 2506 Modular Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
USGS Quad Name: Lowell Township: 19S Range: 01W Section: 14 Tax lot #:	District, Grouping or Ensemble? District Name: USFS Lowell Compound

Current Use: Government - office	Date of Construction: 1981
Architectural Classification/Resource Typ Utilitarian / Government	Alterations: None apparent
Window Type and Material: Aluminum sliders	Exterior Surface Materials Primary: Vertical groove plywood Secondary: Lap Decorative: NA
Roof Type and Material: Gable / Composition shingle	
Condition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	Integrity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor

Number on Aerial: **10**



Preliminary National Register Finding

National Register listed Potentially Eligible: Individually As part of District
 Not Eligible: In current state Irretrievable integrity loss Lacks distinction Not 50 years

State Historic Preservation Office Comments:
 Concur Do Not Concur:
 Potentially Eligible Individually Potentially Eligible as part of District Not Eligible

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments:

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Street Address: Bldg 2506 Modular Office	City, County: Lowell, Lane
Architect, Builder or Designer (if known): Vik Construction Company	Property Category: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object
Owner: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Other Name USDA Forest Service Address: City, State, ZIP: Phone:	
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION This modular office structure was built in 1981 as part of the Lowell Ranger Station complex. It is located at the back of the complex on the east side of Pioneer Street. The front of the building is oriented toward the west and the back of the Army Corps of Engineers Office. The site on which the building sits slopes downward steeply at the east side of the building and is landscaped primarily with grass. A few deciduous trees are located around the building. The office is one-story in height and is built with materials that have an appearance that is compatible with the Northwest style of the other buildings in the complex. The building sits on a concrete foundation and stem walls that form a crawlspace. The footprint of the building is rectangular that measures approximately 66' wide and 42' deep. The office is of prefab modular construction and the exterior walls are clad with T-111 siding. A wood deck is located on the east side of the structure. The side-facing gable roof is covered with composition shingles and has wood lap siding in the gable ends to mimic the surrounding historic buildings. There is no porch, but an entry door is located on the west elevation. Windows consist of aluminum sash horizontal sliders. All doors are modern as well. The office has one large space, in which the three-part modular construction is apparent. It also has two bathrooms, two smaller rooms and a reception space. All interior finishes and fixtures are non-historic. This building is in excellent condition, but is non-historic and therefore has little integrity relative to the 1950s complex as a whole.	
COMPOUND HISTORY In 1893, a presidential proclamation made in keeping with the Forest Reserve Act of 1891, set aside an area of wilderness known as the Cascade Range Forest Reserve. It stretched from the Columbia River to the California border and came to incorporate three regions that focused respectively on Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and central region that later became the Cascade National Forest. Before the creation of the US Forest Service in 1905, the boundaries of this Reserve were modified many times. It officially became known as the Willamette National Forest in 1933, and took on its current boundaries in 1960. When the US Forest Service was first created in 1905, it was categorized under Civil Service. Various regions under Forest Service jurisdiction were divided into districts and were staffed by technically trained foresters, who handled the majority of concerns in their region. Only issues of major concern were handled by the Washington DC office and this eliminated the need for bureaucratic, centralized administration. The Willamette National Forest was located within District 6 (now Region 6), which included the states of Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and parts of Idaho. In the Oregon Cascades forest, administration was sub-divided further. This was thought to increase each section's familiarity with the land in its area. In 1911, Cascade National Forest offices were established in Eugene and small ranger districts were established within the Forest. Their boundaries were determined by logical geographic delineation. This created five ranger districts, including the West Boundary, Oakridge, McKenzie Bridge, Detroit, and Cascadia. After World War II, there was a pronounced growth in the operations of the Forest Service that lasted into the 1960s and encompassed the time when the Lowell Ranger Station came into being. This time was marked by intensive forest management to increase production of the land in terms of lumber and recreational uses, necessitating the development of facilities and infrastructure within the forests. Management of the Forest Service became more centralized as individual, and until then largely independent, district and regional entities were encouraged to look to higher government bodies for the resolution of problems. At the same time, reorganization occurred and larger districts were broken down to create even more districts to serve local areas. The West Boundary Ranger Station was located nine miles up the Middle Fork of the Willamette River from the town of Lowell. In the mid-1800s, the area around Lowell was called Cannon after an early settler. (Interestingly, the forest ranger who signed the 1908 proposal for establishing the West Boundary Ranger Station was M. Thurman Cannon.) The town was associated with the nearby landmark of Butte Disappointment. By 1882, the town site was located on 2,450 acres of land owned by Amos D. Hyland, and the name Cannon was changed to Lowell in 1883. (Hyland's home town was Lowell, Massachusetts.) The name was changed for the specific reason that large quantities of mail were continually misdirected to Canyon, Oregon instead of Cannon. In modern times, Lowell has maintained itself largely on agriculture, lumbering and poultry farming. The town is surrounded by three bodies of water: Lookout Point Reservoir, Dexter Lake, and Fall Creek.	

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Street Address: **Bldg 2506 Modular Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**



Rear view of building.

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
SECTION 106 DOCUMENTATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Street Address: **Bldg 2506 Modular Office**

City, County: **Lowell, Lane**

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