

BROWNSVILLE PRECINCT HISTORIC SURVEY
AND INVENTORY PROJECT

Phase I: Historic Contexts

Prepared By:

Linn County Planning Department

1990

Marvin Gloege.....Project Supervisor
Mary Gallagher.....Project Coordinator
May Dasch.....Project Assistant (volunteer)
Joni Nelson.....Project Assistant (volunteer)
Marlene McClain.....Word Processing

This project was funded by Linn County with a matching grant from the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office.

BROWNSVILLE PRECINCT, LINN COUNTY, OREGON
HISTORIC SURVEY AND INVENTORY PROJECT
1990

INTRODUCTION

The Brownsville Precinct Survey and Inventory Project was funded by Linn County through the planning and building department with a matching grant from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. The project was part of Linn County's continuing effort to survey and inventory the county's cultural resources and place significant resources on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources. The current project consisted of the preparation of several historic context statements and an intensive level reconnaissance survey of over half of the 90 square mile project area. The goal of the project was to determine the number, type, condition, and distribution of cultural resources in this region and to determine which resources, based on the historic context statements and evaluation criteria, should be considered for one or more of the preservation treatments suggested in the treatment portion of the context statements.

Work on the project began on February 26, 1990 and continued on a part-time basis until September 21, 1990. Marvin Gloege, Director of the Linn County Planning and Building Department served as project supervisor. Mary Kathryn Gallagher, Historic Resource Specialist for the Linn County Planning and Building Department, served as the project coordinator and was responsible for all phases of the project. May Dasch served as project assistant and was involved in all aspects of the project. Joni Nelson assisted with the fieldwork and provided historical background on a number of resources. May Dasch and Joni Nelson also provided input during resource evaluation.

Previous Surveys and Inventories

There have been two survey and inventory projects which have encompassed this area. In both cases, the projects were greater in scale but lesser in intensity than the current project. The first project was undertaken in 1976 as part of a statewide inventory project. As part of this project, Stephen Dow Beckham completed a statewide inventory form on one resource in the current project area--the R.C. Finley gristmill site. In 1983-84,

the Linn County Planning and Building Department received two federal matching grants to complete a survey and inventory project of the entire county. This project was initiated to meet the requirements of Goal 5, one of the Oregon land use planning goals. In the current project area, statewide inventory forms were completed for 16 resources. Three resources in the project area are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Resources: the John and Amelia Brown house, the Hugh Leeper Brown barn, and the Hugh Fields house.

PROJECT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The current project area consists of a 90 square mile area previously identified as the Brownsville Precinct of Linn County (boundaries taken from the 1878 Williams Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties). The city of Brownsville, which is not included in the current project, is located in the center of this region. Although this portion of Linn County had been previously surveyed in varying degrees, it was apparent that numerous resources had not been surveyed and inventoried. Furthermore, the previous Linn County project focused on domestic buildings; supporting agricultural buildings were not well represented. This was due in large part to the scale of the previous project which surveyed the entire county including unincorporated towns and many incorporated cities. The previous projects did not include an historic overview or context statement.

The Brownsville Precinct was selected as the first project area in a what is hoped to be a continuing phased effort to more intensively survey the entire county. The selection of this area for the first project was based on the suspected richness of the resource base compared to other areas of Linn County. The objectives of the project were to 1) to develop historic contexts for the project area, 2) locate historic resources in the project area, 3) quantify and assess the quality of resources associated with each of the historic contexts, 4) evaluate the resources to determine which resources are significant, and 5) develop a number of treatment strategies which may be used to preserve those resources which are evaluated as significant.

The current project consisted of two phases: Phase I was the preparation of an historic context statement and Phase II was an intensive level

reconnaissance of a large sample of the project area. The historic context statements include an historic overview, data on resource identification and distribution, reconnaissance findings, preliminary evaluation of the resources and the development of treatment strategies to preserve significant resources. Results of Phase I and II will be used in the formulation of a Phase III work program to carry out the treatment strategies.

PROJECT METHODOLOGY

Phase I: Preparation of Historic Contexts

Phase I, preparation of the historic context statements, involved several levels of research. The first level involved the collection of information about the history of the project area. Written sources provided by the 1930's W.P.A. oral history interviews were relied upon heavily for early history of the area. Other written sources included newspaper articles, the deed indexes, and secondary sources on the history of the area. Several individuals were consulted to supply oral information on 20th century developments in the area. Overlay maps were also prepared. These overlays, which include 1853 cadastral maps, donation land claim maps also dating to the 1850's, 1878 maps from William's Illustrated Historical Atlas Maps of Marion and Linn Counties, and 1930 Metsker maps, had utility in all aspects of the project. The collection of all this information led to the development of "Historic Overviews", or the written chronological narratives on various themes which have played a role in the development of this area. Each narrative generally covers the pre-1940 history of the area from the chosen perspective (theme) and identifies important patterns, events, and individuals. In general, the 19th century was covered more thoroughly than the 20th century. This was largely due to budget constraints.

The second and third portions of the historic context statement, "Identification" and "Discussion", relied on several written and photographic sources in order to define the types and characteristics of resources which might be present in the project area. This research was completed prior to any field inspection of the project area and therefore formed a "predictive model". Written narratives, which form the "Identification" portion of the historic contexts, relied heavily on the

data from the historic information described above, historic photographs, the lithographs in William's Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties and data from the previous surveys. Philip Dole's contributions to Space, Style and Structure: Building in Northwest America, were heavily used in the identification sections of the context statements. Property types were identified in order to link the ideas in the historical narrative with actual properties to illustrate those ideas. For instance, property types associated with "Horticulture in the Brownsville Precinct" would include hops barns, hops picker's quarters, fruit dryers, and orchards as resource types which link the theoretical history to the resources which illustrate that historical development.

The fourth portion of the historic context statement narrative, "Distribution", involved generalizations about the distribution of resource types. This information was derived primarily from the historical narrative and the overlay maps. For instance, historical documentation and the overlay maps indicate that early settlement took place in the upper Calapooia River Valley and along the valley foothill interface regions. The Willamette Valley portions of the project area were not desirable to settlers until the mid-1850's. Therefore we can generalize that we will not find 1840's settlement sites in the Willamette Valley portions of the project area.

The fifth portion of the historic context statement, "Reconnaissance Findings", reports the actual numbers and types of resources located in the project area related to that context and discusses the general condition of resources. This section also serves to "fine tune" the context statement by 1) describing how the actual differed from the predictive model, 2) indicating what types of resources were not represented, and 3) delineating resource types which were not described in the context statement.

The sixth portion of the historic context statement, "Evaluation", relies heavily on the results of the Phase II reconnaissance. The evaluation phase looks at the actual numbers, types, qualities, and distribution of resources representing each context and then provides the integrity thresholds and evaluation standards for the various resource types. Integrity thresholds vary with each resource type (i.e. the integrity threshold may be lower for a rare resource type--see discussion in

evaluation portions of the historic context statements). Criteria used to evaluate the significance of historic resources in Linn County are located in Appendix 2 of the Linn County Comprehensive Plan. In addition to integrity, these criteria are as follows:

- (A) It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the cultural, social, economic, political, aesthetic, engineering, or architectural history of Linn County, the state, or the nation;
- (B) It is identified with persons or events significant in local, state, or national history;
- (C) It embodies distinctive characteristics of a style, type, period, or method of construction;
- (D) It is representative of the notable work of a builder, designer, engineer, or architect;
- (E) It is representative of a type or style of construction that was once common and now is among the last examples surviving in the county or state; and
- (F) It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Groups of related properties were evaluated at the same time and compared to the characteristics defined for the resource type and to one another. In many cases the 'best to minimum' example model was used. (A situation in which this approach was not used was in the case of smaller farm outbuildings such as chicken coops, privys, etc. Instead, these resources were evaluated as part of an evaluation of the larger farmstead group so that a farmstead with the full range of these supporting buildings would be considered a 'best example'.) Associative cultural value was also used and in the case of several altered resources which did not meet the integrity threshold for that resource type, significance was attached to the resource because of the importance of the individual associated with the resource.

The evaluation portion of the context statements provide lists of potentially significant resources in the reconnaissance area. These same

integrity thresholds and criteria would be used in determining the significance of properties in the unsampled portion of the project area.

The last portion of each historic context is the treatment section. The treatment section discusses preservation planning goals, strategies, and priorities. A number of treatment activities are discussed for each historic context. The historic preservation protection program in Linn County has previously relied upon the zoning ordinance which calls for alteration and demolition review for resources listed on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources and on the National Register. The results of the current project indicate that several other treatment strategies may be more productive especially in the case of resources which are in poor physical condition. The zoning ordinance is also problematic for farm outbuildings. Demolition permits and building permits are generally not taken out for these types of structures (e.g. chicken coops, hog barns, privys etc.) and therefore enforcement of the ordinance is virtually impossible.

Phase II: Reconnaissance

The goals of the reconnaissance phase were to provide information on the numbers, types, conditions, and the quality of historic resources in the project area. Since the project area is large, the reconnaissance involved systematic sampling of a portion of the project area. Because the project area encompasses a number of diverse geographic regions, the sample area chosen was large so as to encompass all of the geographic regions. A 60 square mile area was selected being all that portion of Township 14S, Range 2W and Township 14S, Range 3W which falls within the Brownsville Precinct. (A project area map is provided in the introduction section of the historic context statement.) Since information on the number, condition, and integrity of properties in the project area was limited, the reconnaissance phase was completed prior to determining the integrity thresholds for the evaluation portions of the historic contexts.

Field survey was conducted on a section by section basis using resource locational data provided by the overlay maps and 1950 U.S.G.S. quads. The site of every structure indicated on the U.S.G.S. map was visited. If the structure(s) indicated on the 1950 U.S.G.S. maps was no longer standing or

was constructed in the period between 1940 and 1950, then the structure was crossed out on the U.S.G.S. base maps. A reconnaissance form, described below, was completed for all structures 50 years old or older.* A black and white photograph was taken, and the resource's location was keyed to the base map. Photograph quality varies because of weather, time of day, or permission to have access to property. Time constraints did not allow us to retake photographs. Each resource was recorded on a separate form. Therefore, a farmstead having six buildings also has six forms. The associated feature section of the reconnaissance form indicates the relationship of resources to one another. The use of separate forms allows more opportunity to enumerate and compare resource types and to isolate a significant resource from what may not be a significant farmstead. In addition to structures indicated on the U.S.G.S. maps, numerous isolated buildings were recorded. These buildings, discovered during the field survey, were not indicated on the U.S.G.S. maps because of their small size: in rural areas the U.S.G.S. maps only record the locations of houses and larger outbuildings such as barns.

In addition to standing structures, sites identified on the overlay maps and by information derived from the historic context statement were also visited. These sites were generally recorded (see context statement for more specific information on historic-archaeological site recordation). Prehistoric sites were not recorded (based on the contract stipulations of the project).

The reconnaissance, or field survey, was designed to answer several questions about resources in the project area and therefore a form was designed to record information which would provide the type of information needed in the evaluation and treatment portions of the historic contexts.

Each reconnaissance form provides a minimum level of documentation. Resources were given a field identification number or Brownsville Precinct number beginning with #1 and ending with #363. The reconnaissance form consists of several sections. The first section, "identification", provides locational information. The second section, "description", provides information on resource type, date of construction, associated features, condition, and integrity. It should be noted that unless specifically known, the date of construction is often given as simply 19th

century or 20th century. The reason for this is that all too often at a later date, "guesses" turn into fact. Even circa dates can be off by more years than the use of circa implies. A comment section was also included on this portion of the form. Comments were usually minimal because of the time constraints of the project. Comments were often reserved for those features that a camera did not record (e.g. the fact that the framing members of a barn were hand hewn). The third section of the form, "historical information", recorded historical information on the resource when known. This information was gained from several sources including information provided by the context statement, overlay maps, and current or former residents. Historical research on individual resources was not a goal of this project and therefore, the inclusion of this type of information on forms is minimal. (Historical information will be included on the Phase III inventory forms for individual resources.) The historical portion of the reconnaissance form also records the contexts which the resource type represents, and provides the name of contact people which provided current historical information or who may have historical information which could be used in the next phase of the project.

* Several resources were not recorded. These are circled on the base maps. Other resources may have been missed in the uplands of the project area. A pedestrian survey may be the only method of locating resources in that area. No buildings were observed on air photographs but much of the area is forested.

TREATMENT

Survey and Research Needs

The reconnaissance phase of the current project looked at 60 square miles of the 90 square mile project area. Survey of the remaining 30 square miles still needs to be completed. The results of the intensive level reconnaissance will be used to select potentially significant resources from the remaining 30 square miles of the project area. Based on the results of the current project, evaluation standards and integrity

thresholds can be applied to resources in the remaining project area and a list of additional potentially significant resources compiled rather quickly

Statewide inventory forms need to be completed for all resources in the project area determined to be potentially significant except perhaps for historic archaeological settlement sites. (Archaeological site form for these resources could be completed.) The statewide inventory forms need to contain sufficient information to make a determination of eligibility for the Linn County Register of Historic Resources.

Information was compiled on a number of other historic contexts but no historic contexts were prepared because of time constraints. These contexts included fraternal movements, Native peoples during the early settlement period, and ethnic immigrations. Cemeteries were surveyed during the current project but no historic context was prepared. One resource associated with slavery was surveyed: the Cora Cox House, a house built for a former woman slave.

The 20th century agricultural developments in the area need to be researched further and important individuals related to this context need to be identified. The time constraints of the current project prevented the gathering of oral information about early 20th century agricultural practices. There are a number of people still alive who could discuss this aspect of local history. Other resources could be determined to be significant with this additional information.

Numerous prehistoric archaeological sites were also discovered in the course of surveying historic sites. Archaeological site forms should be completed for these resources. Ultimately, an archaeological inventory of prehistoric sites in the Calapooia River drainage should be undertaken.

Treatment Strategies

Preservation in rural areas involves more than simply placing several good examples of farm houses and barns under ordinance protection. The task of preservation in rural areas is made very difficult by several factors. The rural landscape is made up of many different elements and the farmstead is made up of many different buildings. In the past 50 years,

both have changed drastically in response to the changing farm economy, farm size, and farm technology.

The farmstead is primarily a work place. The buildings that compose a farmstead must have utility or they are often destroyed. A machine shed that once held a tractor of the 1930's cannot hold a combine of today. Barns which once held dairy cows and draft animals are often not needed by the grass seed farmer of today. These buildings are sometimes torn down to lower the farm's property tax assessment. Preservation of the farmstead may depend on instilling pride in ownership of these buildings, finding adaptive reuse for outbuildings, and encouraging continued maintenance of these structures.

For this reason, a number of treatment strategies have been identified for the preservation of rural resources in this area. Each resource is unique to some extent and one or more of the following treatment strategies may be appropriate, depending on the resource.

Treatment Strategy 1: Ordinance Protection

Linn County has had an historic preservation ordinance for the past seven years. The county also has an active Historic Resource Commission. The ordinance reviews alteration and demolition proposals for properties listed on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources. While this strategy is one of the strongest, it can become difficult to enforce when applied to farm outbuildings. Outbuildings on a farm generally do not require building or demolition permits. Building permits are required only when the function of an outbuilding changes. Therefore, it is very difficult to monitor outbuildings. It is unlikely that a farmer is voluntarily going to make a trip to Albany from Brownsville to tell the planning department that he is planning to make alterations to his hog barn. Ordinance protection probably has the most utility for houses and barns. This is not to say that this strategy should only be applied to houses and barns.

Treatment Strategy 2: National Register Placement

National Register listing could be undertaken for those few properties in the project area that are eligible. Owners of these properties could be

informed of their property's eligibility and the possible benefits of the National Register program.

Treatment Strategy 3: National Trust's Barn Again! Program

Owners of significant barns should be informed of this program offered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The National Trust can provide farmers with technical information on ways to renovate their old barns so they "earn their keep". The program has made a convincing case for renovation. In general, barn renovation often costs less than one-half the price of building a comparable new structure. Barns listed on the National Register of Historic Places may also qualify for federal income tax breaks of up to 20 percent of any renovation costs over \$5,000; non-register barns built before 1936 are eligible for a tax credit of 10 percent.

Treatment Strategy 4: Award Program

Establish an award program which recognizes individual property owners for the upkeep and retention of farmstead buildings. The emphasis of this type of approach would be education, awareness, and appreciation.

Treatment Strategy 5: Recordation

This strategy is reserved for those resources whose physical condition is so poor that they are in a very threatened state. For instance, many of the outbuildings on the Splawn farm are in danger of collapse (see forms 125-139). (A graduate student is currently undertaking a project to record these buildings and the history of this depression era farm from one of the original residents.) For some resources HABS/HARE recording standards may be appropriate.

Treatment Strategy 6: Move Resource

This strategy has limited applicability but could be useful in some situations such as a threat to the resource. This strategy could be selected to preserve one of the logging bunkhouses located during the course of the project. For instance, one of the bunkhouses, not currently in its original location, could be moved to the Linn County Historical

Museum in Brownsville where it could be furnished (based on oral history) and used as an interpretive exhibit.

Treatment Strategy 7: Oral History

Oral information is available for many of the 20th century resources. In some cases, this information is very important in providing an understanding of the resource. One such resource is a World War II viewing shack. The person who organized the watches is still alive.

Treatment Strategy 8: Signage

This approach is especially appropriate for several important historic sites in the area including Spalding's schoolhouse, the R.C. Finley gristmill site, and the McKinney Meeting House--site of the first church building in Linn County. A voluntary signage program could also be established for standing structures listed on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources.

Treatment Strategy 9: Locating Historic Photographs

This would involve collecting photographs of houses and buildings in the project area that are: (1) no longer standing, (2) that are standing but have been altered, (3) that are associated with a person identified as significant in the context statement but for which no associated standing structure remains. These photographs could be housed at the Linn County Historical Museum in Brownsville. A collection of this type would provide researchers with data on the architectural character of the region through time; provide those wishing to restore a house with photographs of the resource's original appearance; and provide a photograph base which could be used for educational purposes. (For instance, slides of houses associated with important individuals could be made for use in talks on the history of the area to local school children.)

Treatment Strategy 10: Conservation Easement

Treatment Strategy 11: Study of Early Orchards

A number of very old orchards associated with early settlement sites were located in the course of the project. Several of these orchards could be studied by horticulturists to gain information on the early fruit varieties. If rare varieties are discovered, seeds and cuttings could be taken to preserve and propagate these varieties.

Treatment Strategy 12: Archaeological Designation on Planning Department County Maps

Placing historic archaeological sites under ordinance protection could jeopardize the site by making the location of the site known to the public. One strategy would be to place the locations of these sites on the planning department's counter maps. If an application was made for a building permit involving ground disturbance in the locality of the archaeological site, then the applicant would be informed of the site in an effort to see if he could move the proposed activity away from the site area. If this is not possible, Dave Brauner, archaeologist at Oregon State University, has agreed to review the situation and, if warranted and if time permits, contact the property owner to see if excavations or monitoring of the ground disturbing activities could be undertaken.

Treatment Strategy 13: Public Education

The data provided by the preparation of the historic contexts and the reconnaissance phase of this project could be disseminated to the public in a number of ways ranging from guided historical tours of this area to the production of videos focusing on one or a number of aspects of the history and/or architecture of this region.

Given the availability of funds for this type of work in Linn County, many of the above treatment strategies depend upon the services of volunteers. The proximity of the project area to the University of Oregon and Oregon State University could provide graduate student projects. Linn County could submit a list of projects to the appropriate departments at these universities. The support of the Linn County Historical Museum in

Brownsville and the Linn County Historical Society is very important and the Linn County Historic Resource Commission needs to work more closely with these groups.

The most effective preservation techniques rely on financial incentives. One such incentive could be a revolving loan fund for repairs and maintenance of those properties listed on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources. The city of Albany currently successfully operates such a program.

HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Themes

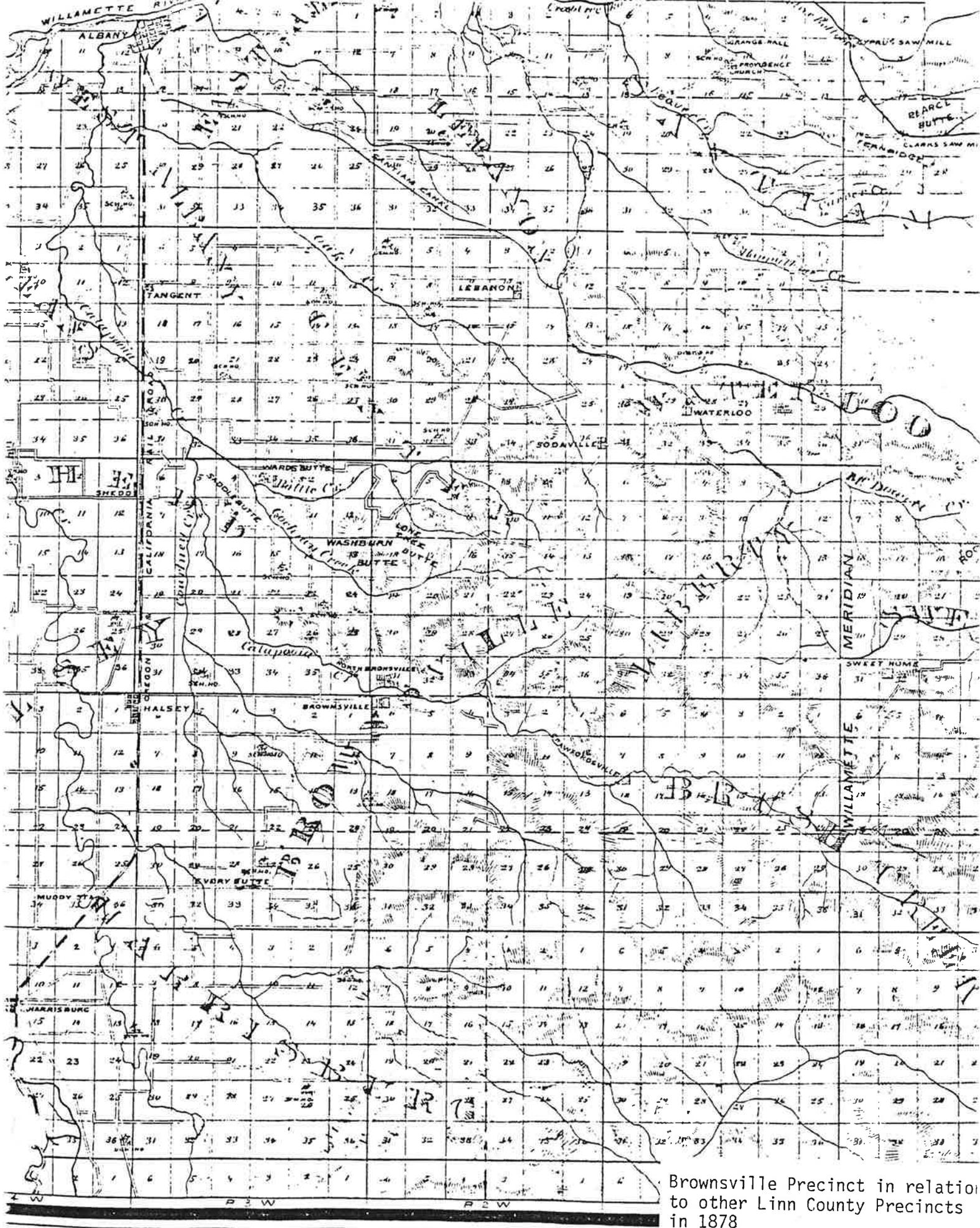
The historic contexts focus on the historical developments of that portion of Linn County historically known as the Brownsville Precinct. Since each historic context statement focuses on the same area through time, this is a geographic context statement. The goals of establishing historic contexts are to (1) identify the historical themes and associated individuals which have played an important role in the development of the area; (2) describe the types and characteristics of resources generally associated with these themes; (3) discuss the potential distribution of these resources on the landscape, (4) establish evaluation standards; and (5) develop treatment strategies for the preservation of these resources. The historic contexts were prepared prior to any field reconnaissance of the area and were prepared using information supplied by documentary and oral sources as well as previous survey information. In this way, the historic context statements, and the overlay maps produced to assist in their preparation, provide a "predictive model". The evaluation and treatment portions of the historic contexts will be completed after the reconnaissance phase. Historic contexts have been prepared for the following themes: Settlement and Community Development; Domestic Architecture of the 19th and 20th Centuries; Agriculture; Industry; Transportation; Religion; Education; Government; Literature.

Temporal Boundaries

The historic context statements encompass the period from the earliest Euro-American settlement (mid-1840's) to 1940. The latter date was selected because of the 50 year age requirement generally required for listing on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources and the National Register. These dates vary depending on the context statement.

Spatial Boundaries and Physical Description

The current project area is located in the upper part of the southern Willamette Valley in that portion of Linn County known historically as the Brownsville Precinct (Figure 1). The Brownsville Precinct encompasses an approximately 90 square mile area in Linn County's Calapooia River



Brownsville Precinct in relation to other Linn County Precincts in 1878

FIGURE 1

drainage (Figure 2).* In the center of this region is the city of Brownsville. (The city of Brownsville is not included in the current project.) The community of Crawfordsville is located just outside the project area's eastern boundary and the city of Halsey is located approximately one mile to the west of the project area's western boundary.

The 1878 atlas map of Marion and Linn Counties noted that in Linn County;

"There are numerous tributaries of the Willamette and Santiam Rivers, the largest and most important of which is the Calapooia. This beautiful and useful mountain stream takes its rise in the Cascade Mountains, flowing in a northwesterly course for about 40 miles, through a succession of the most charming mountain and valley scenery, affording numerous water power on its way, and draining a very extensive water shed." ¹

The project area encompasses a number of diverse geographic regions, a factor which made this area so desirable for early settlement. These regions are: the small Calapooia River Valley above Brownsville; the uplands; the tributary stream valleys, the broad valley floor below Brownsville; the buttes; and the foothill-valley interface regions. (Figure 3)

East of Brownsville, the valley of the Calapooia River extends on both sides of the river to the foothills on the north and south. The extent of valley land on the north side of the river is less than that on the south side of the river - one-half mile wide as compared to two miles wide on the south side of the river. Historically, the valley floor was "principally open prairie with a scattering of ash and oak trees. The ash grew primarily in thickets, or low lying swales, while the oaks grew as solitary giants on the prairie, or in the form of a savanna or oak opening."²

Rising from the river valley on both the north and south sides of the valley are the uplands. An early surveyor provided the following description of the upland areas: "south of the of the Calapooia Valley is high broken hills & mountains with numerous deep ravines and rocky ridges [undergrowth] of hazel [,] vine maple [,] wild cherry [,] ferns and briars."³ "The hills to the north of the river with a southern exposure,

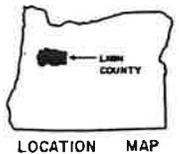
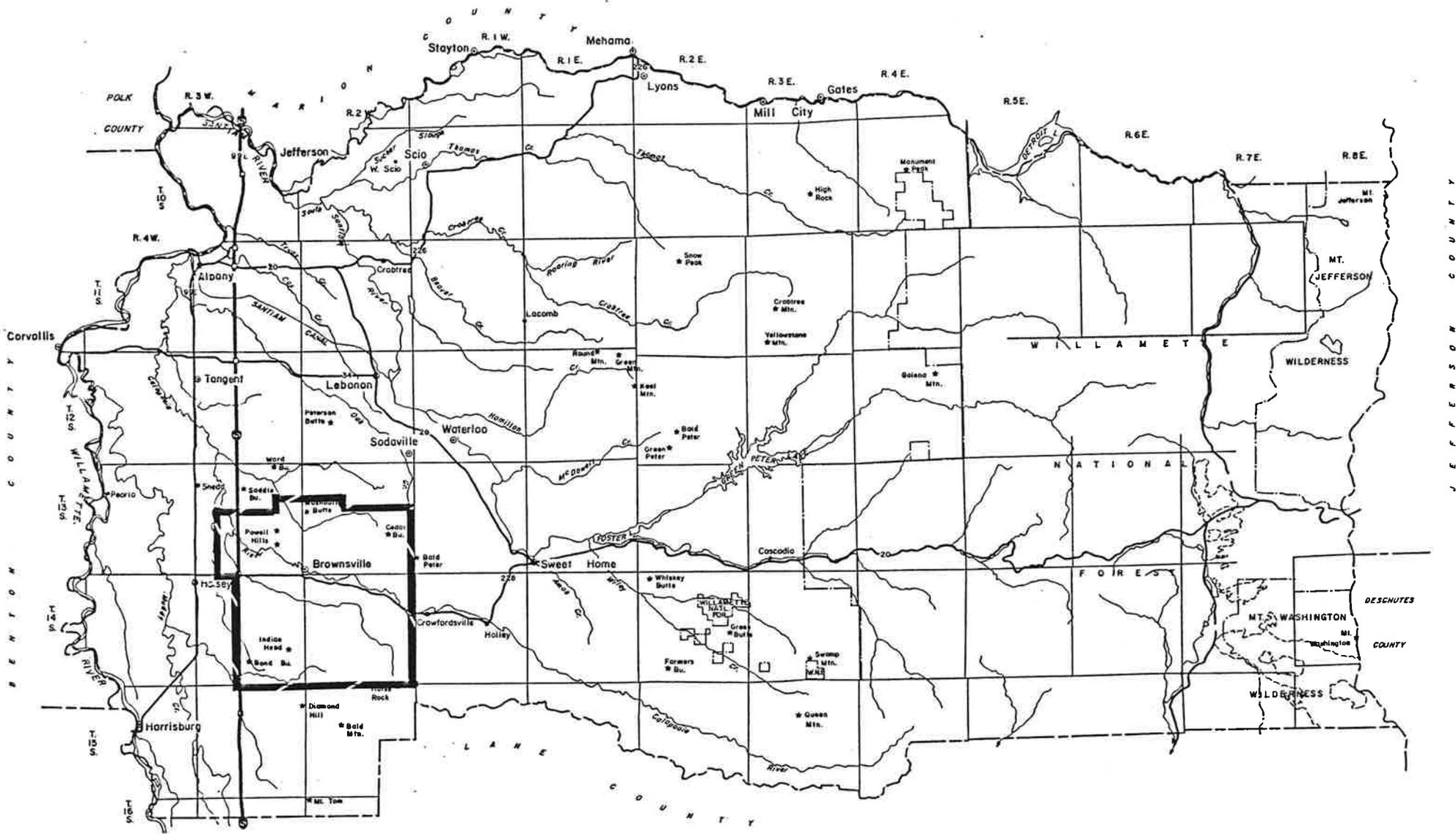


FIGURE 2
Project Area
"Brownsville Precinct"
(outlined)

LINN COUNTY
OREGON
AUGUST 1973
0 1 2 3 4

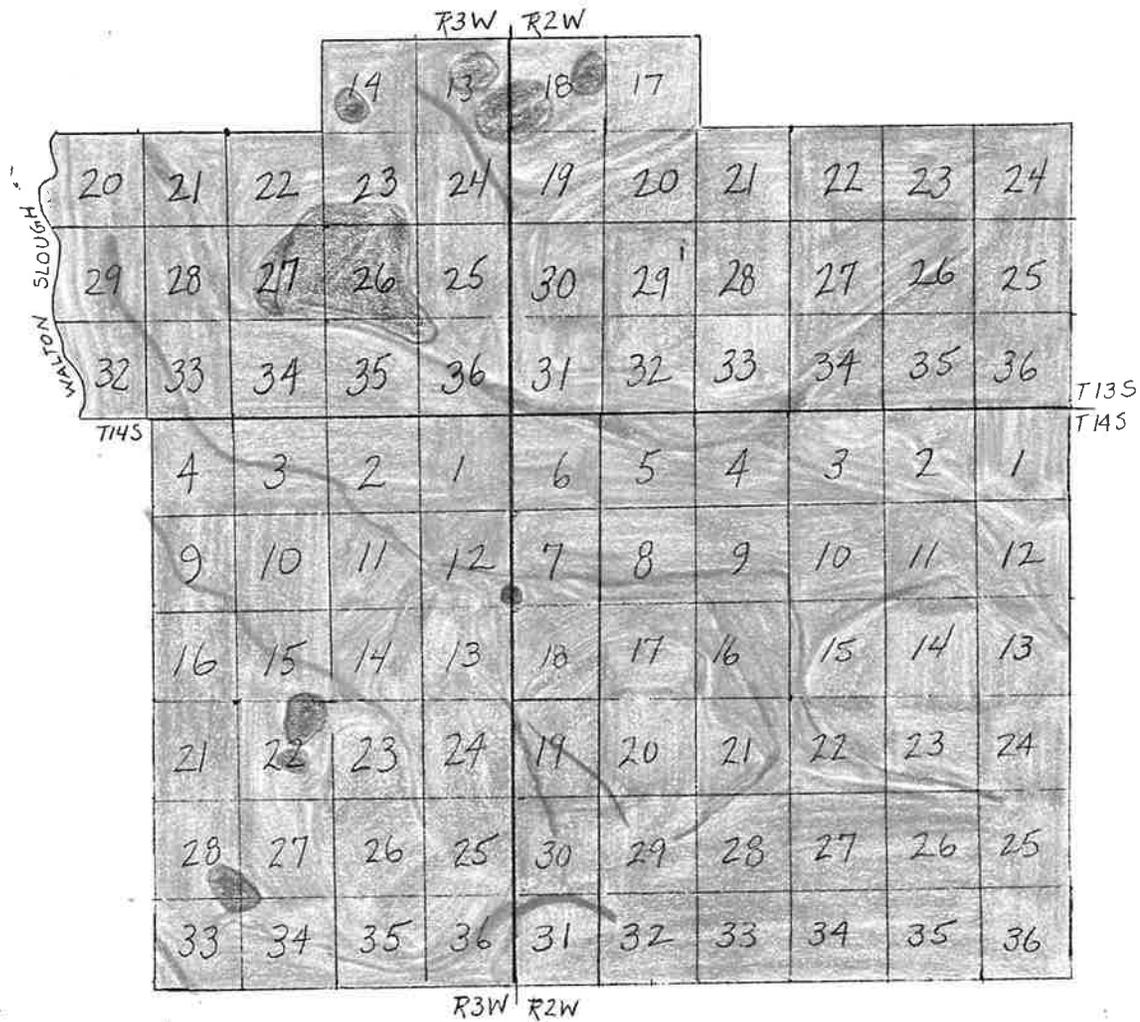


FIGURE 3
Geographic regions of the
Brownsville Precinct

were drier and less densely forested."⁴ Of these hills, the surveyor noted that they were "covered with a "scattering" of oak, fir, and pine, and produced a "fine quality grass."⁵ The hills to the north and east of the project area are known as the Middle Ridge. To the south of Brownsville, in the former Union Point vicinity where the Territorial Road enters the uplands, is a region known as "the gap". The gap is essentially a pass two and one-half miles in length through a projecting foothill region. The gap ends at the southern boundary of the project area.

The uplands are dissected by a number of tributary streams resulting in narrow stream valleys. The most important of these streams in the project area are Courtney Creek, Warren Creek, and Cochran Creek.

The 1878 Marion and Linn County atlas noted that, "the Valley of the Calapooia is a beautiful and fertile one; it is about two miles wide at Brownsville, where it debouches on the prairie..."⁶ The Valley floor west of Brownsville historically consisted of, "extensive meadows composed mostly of grasses, flowers, and scattered oak trees, or oak savanna."⁷ This vegetation was the result of annual burning of the valley vegetation by Native Americans who kept vegetation down to provide and enhance food resources. Because of moister conditions, which limited the effect of fire, dense forests were located along stream courses on the valley floor.⁸ For much of the year, the valley floor was wet and boggy since much of the area was a vast wetland. A number of sloughs and lakes were located on the valley floor. In the project area, the most prominent of these are Spoon River (also known as Walton Slough), and Taylor Lake which was formerly known as Hampton Slough. Little Muddy Creek and its smaller tributaries, located in the southwestern portion of the project area, flow into Muddy Creek and is the only stream system in the project area that is not a part of the Calapooia River drainage.

The flat topography of the valley floor is disrupted by a number of buttes. These prominent landmarks are, "...rounded hills several hundred feet in height, covered in part by scrubby timber and brush..."⁹ At the very northern edge of the project area is a double butte composed of Washburn Butte (formerly known as Cochran Butte) and Lone Pine Butte. The elevation of Washburn Butte is 1383 feet thus making a very prominent landmark for miles around. Lone Pine Butte was named for a single tall

pine tree "strikingly visible from the surrounding country."¹⁰ That tree is no longer standing. To the west of these Buttes are located the Powell Hills which rise up to 500 feet above the Calapooia River which flows at the southern base of these hills. The Powell Hills are a series of interconnected hills approximately one and one-half square miles in area. In the southern portion of the project area is a westward extension of the foothills known as Indian Head. Here, the foothills extend further than others in the project area and rise more abruptly from the valley floor. The Dinwiddle Valley, which dissects this foothill, historically provided a pass to the 1850's settlement of Union Point, located at the southern end of the Calapooia River Valley. Several smaller buttes are located immediately east of Indian Head: Twin Buttes and Bond Butte.

The area in which the foothills meet the valley floor, the foothill-valley interface, was the land of choice for the region's earliest Euro-American settlers, especially the interface area in the Calapooia River Valley above Brownsville which was more "sheltered". The foothills provided water, farm land, pasture, and timber. Boag notes that;

"Along the foothills...grew Douglas-fir, grand fir, ponderosa pine, incense cedar, with western hemlock and western red cedar growing in moister and cooler, yet well-drained areas, along upper foothills and streams. Hardwood trees such as big leaf maple, western white oak, and madrone were also present in the foothills. They were mixed with shrubs such as hazel nut, ocean spray, and snowberry, and along the prairie edges with smaller plants like cheat grass, Oregon-grape, and tarweed."¹¹

In the 20th century, the lands of the Brownsville Precinct have been impacted by large scale logging activities and commercial agriculture. The construction of Interstate 5, which bisects the entire project area, disrupted a portion of the east-west roads in the project area resulting in a division of the project area both physically and socially. Interstate 5, and associated developments, have also had a visual impact on the area, contrasting greatly with the otherwise pastoral setting of the project area.

* In the historic context statements, the term "the Calapooia" is often used (e.g. the earliest settlers to the Calapooia). This is a term

employed historically to mean this general region and does not refer to just the river. This is a somewhat loose term, while the Brownsville Precinct refers to a very specific geographic region. The term "Calapooia" area or region encompasses the Brownsville Precinct.

THEME: SETTLEMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SCOPE: 1845-1940

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Immigration (1845-1855)

In the early 1840's, the first large wagon trains carrying American settlers reached the Willamette Valley. The earliest settlers located in the northern portion of the Willamette Valley with settlement gradually moving south. The earliest Euro-American settler in Linn County was John Packwood who located a claim and built a cabin in the Forks of the Santiam region in 1844.¹ (Jesse Looney may have staked a claim at the foot of Knox Butte in 1843 but he did not stay.) John Crabtree purchased Packwood's squatter's rights in 1845.² The first influx of settlers to the Calapooia region was in 1846. Isaac Hutchens is believed to have been the first to stake a claim in the project area in 1845, but he did not remain that year.³

The spring of 1846 saw the first permanent Euro-American settlement on the Calapooia. "Usually settlers wintered in the northern part of the valley, and then headed south in the spring to chose a claim that could be worked during the spring and summer months."⁴ This was the case with John and Agnes Courtney who arrived in Oregon in 1845 and headed to the Calapooia in the spring of 1846.⁵ Other settlers that spring included John Findlay, Elias Walters, who settled on the banks of the Calapooia one mile "west of the ford" (later Brownsville), and Walters' brother-in-law whose last name was Williams. A large contingent of related families came to the Calapooia in the fall of 1846. Members of the emigrant train included the Hugh L. Brown family, the James Blakely family, the Jonathan Keeney Family, the Alexander Kirk family, the Riley (W.R.) Kirk family (married son of Alexander), and R.C. and Polly Kirk Finley.⁶ Josiah Osborn was also a settler of 1846. Josiah Osborn's wife was Margaret Findley, daughter of Agnes Ritchey Findley Courtney.⁷

The first settlers in this area, "...flocked to the poor, shallow foothill lands where clear springs were found and where timber for building could be obtained. At first it was thought that the open valley was too boggy and wet to be cultivated."⁸ Because a portion of the lands in the project area lie at the valley-foothill interface, this area was one of the

earliest population centers in the southern Willamette Valley. Boag notes that it was;

"...the special configuration of the Calapooia...landscape that redefined and gave new meaning to the subsistence agricultural lifestyle early settlers brought with them. In the Midwest there had been a concern to bring together woodland and prairie with all their inherent benefits--availability of grazing land, wood, and water. This concept was taken to the Calapooia..."⁹

According to the account of W.C. Cooley, grandson of James Blakely;

"The Browns and the Blakelys reached the ford on the upper Calapooia where Brownsville now stands, on the 13th day of October, 1846. They made camp and on the following morning, the women of the party resolved to do some long delayed washing...The men in the meantime, resolved to do a little exploring of the surrounding region. They rode out into the valley...and then went up the valley for six or eight miles...The men liked the land very much. There was plenty of water and timber available and the land seemed rich and easily cleared. The grass was tall all over the valley, so that there was plenty of grazing for the stock. When they returned to their camp, my grandfather said, 'Girls, we've found the place. We're going to stay'."¹⁰

"From 1846 to 1850, settlers claimed the vast majority of the periphery of the Calapooia along the edge created where the wooded foothill and open prairie met."¹¹ Some settlers also claimed land on the valley floor along the Calapooia since here too, timber grew along the river banks and the agricultural lands were first rate.¹² Settlers of the earliest period from 1847 to 1849 included the William Templeton family (former neighbor's of the Keeneys, Blakelys and the Browns in Missouri), the James McHargue Family, the Montgomery family (Mrs. McHargue's parents), the Michael family, and William Robnett (1847); the John Dunlap family, who were related to the Osborns, Findleys, Griffiths, and the Courtneys (Mr. Dunlap's wife was Jane Findley and Elisha Griffith's wife was Jane Findley's sister), the Henry Harmon Spalding Family, Luther White, John Bateman, and Nathaniel Jack (1848); and William Cochran and Hugh Fields

(1849). (These are the dates these settlers arrived in the area, not the dates that they settled a claim.) In general, immigration was slow in 1849 due to the gold rush in California which "rerouted" some of those heading to Oregon. Other settlers of the 1840's included Rev. John McKinney, Elisha Griffiths, Thomas Morgan, whose wife was a Courtney, and William Finley, among others.

By the end of the 1840's, this region witnessed many of the earliest developments in Linn County. (Linn County was established in 1847.) These developments included the first flour mill south of Oregon City, and the establishment of early sawmills, schools, and possibly the first church building.

The tide of immigration increased in the early 1850's and the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850 provided the first federally recognized system of land tenure in Oregon.¹³ The Donation Land Law or Donation Land Claim Act, granted white or half-Indian male settlers, who were at least 18 years old, legal title to land claimed anytime prior to December 1, 1850 (320 acres if single or 640 acres if married). Women received title to 1/2 of her husband's claim, and widows could claim land if their husbands died before they were able to fulfill the requirements. Settlers who arrived after December 1, 1850 but before December 1, 1853 were also granted land (a single, white male at least 21 years of age, received 160 acres and a married white male could claim 320 acres.) In both cases the land had to be lived on and cultivated for four years in order to receive legal title. Amendments were passed in 1853 and 1854 which allowed claimants to live only two years on the land and pay \$1.25 an acre and to sell the rights to their land before receiving patents. The Donation Land Claim Act was also extended to December 1, 1855.¹⁴

The law establishing donation land claims also called for the imposition of the rectilinear cadastral survey and required new land claims to adhere to these north-south, east-west survey lines.¹⁵ Prior to this time, land claims were not required to adhere to the cardinal compass points. More often the configuration of the claim was based on the juxtaposition of natural resources.¹⁶ In the project area, the Jarad and Ely Michael claims, with their skewed lines, are indicative of claims taken prior to the establishment of the Donation Land Claim Act (see Overlay Maps

figures K2 and L1). Federal surveyors first came to the Calapooia for the purpose of establishing township, range and section lines in the winter of 1852-53.¹⁷

Many of the settlers to the Oregon Country had roots going back to the Midwest and the upper South and according to Boag, "Most Calapooia settlers descended from families who took several generations to make their way across the trans-Appalachia region before coming to Oregon."¹⁸

"In general, the adult population of the Calapooia during the initial stages of settlement had been born in the upper south states of Kentucky and Tennessee, some others in Virginia and Pennsylvania, and a mere handful in New England and New York. These people grew up in Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. They married in Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, and had their first children in the latter two states, and then moved on to Oregon and the Calapooia."¹⁹

He substantiates this by noting that in 1850, 77 percent of the Calapooia's adult population originated in the slightly older trans-Appalachian states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana while the average age of children born in the west, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois was 13.²⁰

Not only did many of the early settlers come from the same regions of the United States, many were also related or came from the same "neighborhood". One case in point was the Wilson-Blain-Dinnwiddle clan who emigrated to this area in the early 1850's. In 1849 or 1850, Wilson Blain came to the Calapooia as a Presbyterian missionary and established an Associate Reformed church on his claim in the locality which would later be known as Union Point. Prior to coming to Oregon, Wilson Blain was pastor of a congregation in Indiana. According to Florence Mildred Cooper, whose mother was a Wilson, "The Hebron church in Indiana met first in the house of Thomas Dinwiddle, in a grove, and in schoolhouses."²¹ Finally, under Rev. Blain, they built a hewn log church about one mile from Hebron. When the first post office was established, Wilson Blain became the postmaster."²² The scenario was much the same on the Calapooia

when many of Blain's relatives and former congregation moved to the Calapooia. Florence Cooper provided insight into the migration of this clan to the Union Point area in the early 1850's explaining that:

"The wife of Wilson Blain was a sister of my grandfather, James H. Wilson. When Wilson Blain came to Oregon, he was followed by a considerable number of friends and relatives from the old Hebron Indiana church. Among these were Robert Glass... His son, Wilson Glass, was named for the pioneer preacher. There was also Ira Henderson, whose wife was Margaret Wilson. There was Hugh Patterson and John Dinwiddle, and my grandfather, James Wilson, whose wife, my grandmother, was a sister of the Dinwiddles. There was also John and Daniel Wilson, who were grandfather's brothers."²³

As in Indiana, Blain had a church built and established a post office for which he served as postmaster.

Another example of family and neighbor migration is seen in a letter written by William McHargue, from Chariton County, Missouri, to his brother, James McHargue who settled on the Calapooia in the 1847. He informed his brother, that, "You may look for me in the fall of 1853. The party will consist of the following persons, myself and wife, John and F.F. Tycer, John S. Wright, Henry Tilleson, Nathaniel Rice, Elizabeth Proffit, and Lewis Tycer and family."²⁴ William McHargue was married to Lucinda Proffit and Nathaniel Rice was married to Elizabeth Montgomery. (James McHargue's wife's parents were Montgomerys who settled on the Calapooia with the McHargue's in the late 1840's.) Robert Montgomery may have also been a member of this emigrant train.

If not related prior to settlement, the limited population of the area provided many relationships through marriage. Hugh Montgomery noted that "all of the Browns, Montgomerys, Blakelys, Templetons, Tycers, McHargues, Kirks, Finley's, and Walters,... are more or less closely connected by intermarrying."²⁵

Others who came to this region from 1850 to 1855 included William Hawk (1850); Silas Powell and William Sperry (1851); John Moyer, George Colbert, John Gray, Abraham Wigle, Robert Robe and Joseph Harrison (1852); and Bird Wagoner, the Pearl Family and Moses and Martha Zoosman (1853).

Most of the early settlers crossed the Oregon trail using a covered wagon pulled by oxen. This was not the case with John Moyer and George Colbert who purchased a wagon and three horses with the idea of "breaking a record".²⁶ They reached the end of the Barlow pass in three months, about half of the time usually required for the trip.²⁷

The 1858 General Land Office Donation Land Claim maps indicate claims were taken primarily in these areas: along the Territorial Road, at the south base of Powell Butte, on all sides of the foothill extension known as Indian Head, and in the Calapooia River Valley.²⁸ While claimants during the early years never ventured far from the foothills or the river, "...between 1851 and 1855...settlers [began to] take up the initially less desirable land on the open, winter-wet, summer-dry, and timberless prairie, as well as the less desirable land higher up in the rugged foothills."²⁹ Boag notes that, "By the mid-1850's, settlers had enclosed much of the Calapooian landscape."³⁰ Farms had been settled, crops and orchards planted, roads created, schools and churches built, and cemeteries established.

Community Development

When Alexander Kirk arrived in 1846, he purchased Isaac Courtney's squatter's rights to a piece of land which held the best site for a ferry on the Calapooia.³¹ With the establishment of a ferry, this location became known as Kirk's Ferry. Situated on the Territorial Road, this site was in a strategic location for further developments. Alexander Kirk also operated an inn and a tavern in his home to serve travellers.³² In 1850, Kirk became the first postmaster of "Calapoya" which was established that year in the locality of the ferry.³³ In ca. 1850, Hugh Brown and his nephew, James Blakely, established a store near the ferry site on Blakely's claim which was located immediately east of Kirk's claim. Alexander Kirk, although not a blacksmith himself, also built a blacksmith shop and leased it to blacksmith, Tom Wilcox, thereby providing an

additional service in this locality.³⁴ By 1853, and possibly earlier, a school was located near the store and blacksmith shop.³⁵

These developments led to the eventual establishment of a town in this location. James Blakely hired Luther White to survey a townsite on his claim.³⁶ Blakely named the town, which consisted of 14 blocks on the south side of the Calapooia River, Brownsville in honor of his uncle, Hugh L. Brown. The first recorded sale of a lot was in 1858.³⁷ The earliest plat map on file with the county is dated 1864 when Alexander Kirk recorded two additions to the town on the west.³⁸ Hugh Fields and Jonathan Keeney were eventually partners in the Brown and Blakely Store.³⁹ Later the store was owned by W.L. Linville and George Cooley.⁴⁰ Another early store in south Brownsville was the Moody and Mitchell Store.

In ca. 1859 William McHargue, James McHargue and James Blakely, partners in the Brownsville Milling Co., built a gristmill on the north side of the Calapooia River on the H.H. Spalding Donation Land Claim.⁴¹ A mill race was dug to power the mill and in 1861, the Linn County Woolen Mill was established in the same general location. These developments on the north side of the river led to the development of two "towns"-- North Brownsville and Amelia. Like Brownsville on the south side of the river, no plats have been found for either of these two communities until later additions were made.

Amelia was platted by Henry Harmon Spalding and named for his daughter Amelia.⁴² It was noted that John Worsley, hired as woolen mill superintendent, built worker housing upon his arrival.⁴³ It is likely that this early housing was located in Amelia. The first recorded sale of a lot in Amelia to the public was in 1865.⁴⁴ North Brownsville may have been platted by William McHargue, A.S. Bassett, and Andrew Warren, partners in the Brownsville Milling Co. as of 1863.⁴⁵ The first recorded sale of a lot was in 1865.⁴⁶ The first store established in North Brownsville was that of "Messrs. Browns, Cochrane, and Warren".⁴⁷

In 1859, the post office of Brownsville was established and in 1876, the town of Brownsville was incorporated. In 1895, the towns of Brownsville, North Brownsville and Amelia were consolidated into one town known as Brownsville.⁴⁸ The town of Brownsville is not included in the scope of the

current project. As the geographic, economic and social center of the project area, developments in Brownsville were closely related to developments in the surrounding rural areas.

In addition to the above developments, Brownsville had a a tannery, sash and door factory, three dry goods-grocery stores, a wagon shop, two blacksmiths, two saddle and harness shops, one drug store, a town hall three churches, one hotel, and a tinsmith in 1869.⁴⁹ With no river connection, however, farmers had to ship wheat from the riverboat towns of Peoria and Harrisburg. Likewise, the completion of the railroad through this area in 1870, made the newly platted town of Halsey, located two miles west of the project area, a regional trading center for local farmers shipping wheat. In 1880, the Oregonian Railway Co. Limited, completed a rail line through the project area. The coming of the railroad spurred a rapid growth on the north side of town. Older homes were dragged in from the county as well as new one being built. With the decline of wheat in the later part of the 19th century and the increase in horticultural and dairying activity in the early 20th century, Brownsville was a focal point for farmers because of the creameries and cannery located there. Brownsville's population grew steadily during the 19th century with 169 residents in 1869; 450 residents in 1880; 580 residents in 1890; and 698 residents in 1900.⁵⁰ By 1910 the population of Brownsville had increased by about 300 residents.⁵¹

Another town platted in the project area was Union Point. Union Point, located approximately two miles south of Brownsville, was platted by Wilson Blain who owned the Donation Land Claim upon which the town was sited, and was minister of the Union Point United Presbyterian Church which was located on this site (see map figure I-1). Union Point was located on the Territorial Road, in a position to take advantage of the trade supplied by miners headed to the gold fields of California and later southern Oregon. Rev. Wilson Blain, in an 1851 letter to his friend, Asahel Bush, said that; "Men bound to the gold mines are passing our door almost hourly for some weeks past; so that I should suppose the male part of the population below this place must be pretty much gone to the far famed gold bluffs."⁵² In addition to those going to California to mine, large cattle drives passed that way as did freighters carrying dried fruit, flour and cured hams for the market created by the gold rush. The

post office of Union Point was established on Blain's property in 1854 with Blain serving as postmaster.⁵³ The date the town was platted is uncertain but the first sale of a lot was recorded in 1855.⁵⁴ (This predates the recorded sale of a lot in Brownsville by three years.) As platted, the town had at least 19 blocks (based on the highest numbered block sold).⁵⁵ Not many lots were ever sold in Union Point. Several property owners were relatives of Blain such as John Wilson and Hugh Dinwiddle. Peter Kesling, a local carpenter, owned an entire block.⁵⁶ Union Point had a church, an academy, a school, a gunsmith, a store, and a wagon maker.⁵⁷ W.C. Baird was the village blacksmith and the store was run by a man named Burns.⁵⁸ One source noted that Union Point had two stores.⁵⁹ There were also several dwelling houses including the residence of Wilson Blain and the residence and workshop of James Wirth, the wagon maker.⁶⁰

The growth and importance of Union Point depended largely on the selection of the county seat. In the early 1850's Union Point was in contention for this title. Albany was the victor. With increasing developments in the Brownsville locality, Union Point declined as a regional center. In 1858, a petition to the legislature by Wilson Blain, Hugh Dinwiddle, and John Barsell asked that a certain part of the plat be legally vacated.⁶¹ The post office was discontinued in ca. 1860.

Another platted town, adjacent to but not included in the current project area, is Crawfordsville. The town was established by Philemon Vawter Crawford on property he purchased from Robert Glass and Timothy Riggs in 1870.⁶² A post office was established in this location in 1870.⁶³ The first recorded plat of the town dates to 1879.⁶⁴ Crawford built a carding mill and sawmill earlier in this location using a mill race dug from Brush Creek to the Calapooia for power.⁶⁵ Crawfordsville never grew to any great extent. In 1880, the population was 58.⁶⁶ In 1887, Crawfordsville had two harness and saddle shops, two blacksmith shops, an ax manufactory, a planing mill, two dry goods stores, one boot and shoe shop, a drug store, a tannery and a hotel.⁶⁷ In 1880, a Presbyterian church was established there with Rev. Robert Robe as pastor.⁶⁹ Between 1884 and 1900, a sash and door factory was operated in Crawfordsville by the Glass brothers.⁶⁹

Regional Development (1855-1940)

After 1855, the population density of the valley floor increased and by 1860 the population density was higher there than in the foothills.⁷⁰ There were several factors responsible for this shift in land desirability. As the market for agricultural products grew, the plains became more valuable for the abundance of crops they could produce.⁷¹ With the first settlement of this area, farmers began to drain this land making it more productive.⁷² The railroad probably had the greatest impact on the value of prairie land.⁷³ By 1870, the date that the railroad was completed in this area, the price of prairie land had risen 100 percent more than it had been in 1864.⁷⁴ Railroad towns like Halsey provided large grain warehouses for storing and shipping wheat. Boag notes that, "...by the late 19th century, the center of Calapooia population...had moved out onto the prairies. By 1887, four-fifths of Linn County's population,...lived on the open prairies on farms, in Albany, or in villages the railroad created, like Shedd and Halsey."⁷⁵

With the agricultural emphasis changing to the valley floor, forests began establishing themselves in the foothill regions. Dorissa Zoosman Miller, daughter of settler Moses Zoosman, spoke of this in the 1930's saying:

"It is popular at present to talk a great deal about conserving the forests and to speak as though we had wasted the greater part of trees that were here when the settlers came. As a matter of fact, there is a hundred times more forest now, especially in the foothills as there was when the settlers first arrived. The hills where my father settled were then quite bare of trees. He moved in with ox team and from his place there was a free view of all the valley. The oxen had no trouble whatever bringing in the big wagons through the few large scattering trees which then existed. Now our old place is so covered and smothered in timber that it is like an untouched wilderness. Except where roads have been opened, it is now impossible to travel across country because of thick forest growth."⁷⁶

According to Boag, the size of land claims in this area decreased very slowly through the end of the 19th century. He notes that:

"Of the original 174 claims taken on the Calapooia, the average size was 352 acres. Twenty years later, the 58 farms enumerated in the 1870 agricultural census averaged 455 acres a piece. In 1880, of the 209 farms listed in the agricultural census, however, the average size dropped to 286 acres."⁷⁷

In the early 20th century, an influx of newcomers to the region had an impact on settlement patterns in the region. The Brownsville Times of July 1, 1904 supplies the following article giving an indication of the changes occurring in land tenure in the early part of the century. The article noted that as a result of a promotional campaign in which a pamphlet entitled "Where Rolls the Oregon" was distributed;

"Perhaps no section of the state can boast of a better growth in population than...Brownsville and the surrounding country in the past few years. It is conservative to say that something like 300 people have recently settled in our midst, coming here from every part of the United States, and swelling the population of Brownsville to upwards of 1000 people... The benefits to the community...are seen in the cutting up of some of our large farms, into smaller holdings, which were purchased by the newcomers, who are diversifying their products. Real estate has nearly doubled in value..."⁷⁸

In 1912, A.P. Talent, who moved to this region from Medford, Oregon, subdivided the Elias Kenney Farm which he had recently purchased creating the Talent Subdivision.⁷⁹ The farm, located in T13S, R3W, Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34, was divided into 24 tracts. The Brownsville Times of October 11, 1912 noted that each tract;

"...faces the new north and south county road recently established by the County Court, leading from the Brownsville-Halsey Road to the Calapooia River. All the tracts are nicely situated and the soil is of the best along the Calapooia. We understand that a number of tracts are already sold and that the owners, who are southern Oregon people, will erect homes on the same and become residents. The land thus divided will be used for fruit and diversified farming."⁸⁰

Apparently, the subdivision was not a very successful venture.

Another factor affecting settlement patterns in the area immediately east of Brownsville in the early 20th century was the erosion caused by the Calapooia River. The Brownsville Times of January 18, 1901, noted that;

"The Calapooia River is giving more concern and trouble in the east part of town this winter than ever before...The waters are eating the north bank away at a terrible rate, carrying many hundreds of dollars worth of land away. Several buildings have been moved."⁸¹

Prominent Individuals Associated with the Theme of Settlement

Alexander Kirk: Settler of 1846 who established a ferry, inn and tavern on the Calapooia. Post office in this location called Calapoya est. 1850 (later Brownsville).

James Blakely: Settler of 1846. The Brown-Blakely emigrant train was the first to cross the Barlow trail. Blakely platted the town of Brownsville on his donation land claim on the south side of the Calapooia in the 1850's. Established the first store in the area on his Donation Land Claim with his uncle, Hugh Leeper Brown, in ca. 1850. Prominent in the development of North Brownsville as one of the partners of the Brownsville Milling Co.

Hugh L. Brown: Settler of 1846. The Brown-Blakely emigrant train was the first to cross the Barlow Trail. Hugh L. Brown was co-owner of the first store in the area established with his nephew, James Blakely, in ca. 1850 on Blakely's Donation Land Claim. This, along with several other developments in this immediate location, led to the establishment of the town of Brownsville, platted by James Blakely and named for his uncle Hugh L. Brown.

Wilson Blain: Platted the town of Union Point which was a regional religious and social center for the area in the early and mid-1850's.

Luther White: Surveyor who surveyed the town site of Brownsville for James Blakely.

A.S. Bassett: Partner in the Brownsville Milling Co. Along with Andrew Warren and William McHargue, may have platted North Brownsville.

Andrew Warren: Partner in the Brownsville Mill Co. Along with A.S. Bassett and William McHargue, may have platted North Brownsville.

Henry H. Spalding: Platted the town of Amelia in the early 1860's. Named for his daughter Amelia.

William McHargue and James McHargue: Along with James Blakely, were the founding partners in the Brownsville Milling Company which led to the development of North Brownsville. William McHargue, A.S. Bassett and Andrew Warren may have been responsible for platting North Brownsville.

Philemon Vawter Crawford: Platted the town of Crawfordsville.

W.R. Kirk, R.C. and Polly Kirk Finley: Among the first group of permanent Euro-American settlers to this area in 1846. The Brown-Blakely emigrant train, of which they were a member, was the first to cross the Barlow Trail.

Isaac Hutchens: Probably first Euro-American to claim land in the project area.

Josiah and Margaret Findley Osborn: Among the first group of permanent settlers who arrived in the area in the spring of 1846. Later, in 1847, Josiah worked at the Whitman mission in Idaho as a carpenter building a mill. He and his family survived the Whitman Massacre.

Jonathan Keeney: Early settler of 1846; Once a "mountain man" who trapped with Jim Bridger and William Sublette. Later partner in the Brown and Blakely Store in Brownsville.

Hugh Fields: Early partner in the Brown and Blakely Store.

Agnes Courtney: One of the earliest settlers on the Calapooia who filed for the Courtney Donation Land Claim after the death of her husband in the late 1840's, making her one of only two woman claimants in the project area.

John B. Courtney, Elias Walters, John Findlay: Earliest group of Euro-American settlers to settle in this area in the spring of 1846.

(There are numerous other persons who made a contribution to the early settlement and development of this region. These people have been listed within the historic context most related to their contribution. For example, Henry H. Spalding is listed as a prominent individual in the Education and Religion context statement and William Cochran is listed in the Agricultural context. Both of these individuals, as early settlers who made a contribution to the settlement of the area, are also prominent individuals under the theme of Settlement.)

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

Previous surveys have identified several resources associated with settlement. These include a portion of the Territorial Road, the William Cochran House, the Spalding Schoolhouse site, the R.C. Finley gristmill site, and the Union Point marker. A number of other resources associated with settlement have been inventoried in the Brownsville city limits including the Alexander Kirk log cabin, the millrace which powered the Brownsville grist and woolen mills, and the Kirk ferry site.

Resource Types

Most resource types associated with the theme of settlement are discussed in other contexts (see architecture, transportation, industry, agriculture, etc.) Several resource types associated with this theme and not discussed elsewhere are:

-Natural Feature/blazed tree

- Donation Land Claim (boundaries sometimes still apparent as a hedgerow, fence, or road.)
- Site/settlement (historical-archaeological)
- Natural Feature/spring
- Town/site (historical-archaeological)
- Subdivision

Discussion

Sites selected by early settlers to place their first cabin may be important from both an historical and archaeological perspective. For example, the location of the first Euro-American settler's cabin in this area may prove to be an important local historical site. Likewise the cabin site of a prominent individual may prove to be an important historical site. From a broader perspective, these early cabin sites are part of the larger picture. Philip Dole notes that:

"Some of the first years improvements had a lasting effect on the organization and character of the farm. The claim chosen with the practiced eye ultimately had to supply meadows, fields, vegetable gardens, and orchards as well as timberland. In many cases, the original cabin's site had clearly identified the best spot on a farm for a permanent building grouping: water supply, good drainage, attractive position, driveway and central location from which most of the farmlands could easily be reached from the house or the barn."⁸²

Some of these early sites may also be valuable from an historical-archaeological perspective depending on the future research questions. Likewise, an early townsite, such as Union Point, may be significant from an historical and archaeological perspective. The early abandonment date of Union Point enhances the site's archaeological potential.

Trees and other features were sometimes used to designate corners of Donation Land Claims. Everett Earle Stanard noted that Jared Michael marked his claim by having gone to "...an oak tree, blazed it on four sides, and thus made the northeast corner of his claim."⁸³ The routes of early roads were also sometimes designated by blazed trees.

Methodology

The sites of early cabins are indicated on the General Land Office 1853 Cadastral Survey (see overlay maps). These sites will be inspected in the field as part of a section by section reconnaissance survey of the project area. The northeast corner of Jared Michael's Donation Land Claim will be surveyed to see if the "witness" tree still stands. Donation land Claim boundaries will be noted if a hedgerow or fence is still in place to define its edge. These will be surveyed as landscape elements. The reconnaissance procedure will also look for any intact Donation Land Claims (i.e. a parcel of land whose legal configuration still conforms to the original D.L.C.). The known location of the Union Point Site will also be surveyed with an attempt to pinpoint building locations based on a map drawn in later years.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

A total of 28 resources representing early (pre-1856) Euroamerican settlement were recorded during the reconnaissance. Most resources associated with early settlement are sites which may be significant from an historical or archaeological perspective. Only one pre-1856 building, the Jonathan Keeney House, was located in the course of the reconnaissance. Two other buildings associated with early settlement, the William Cochran House and the Hugh Leeper Brown Barn, were previously inventoried. All surveyed resources representing the early settlement period are listed in Table 1. Resource types are enumerated in Table 2.

Most of the predicted resource types were located. Only one donation land claim line was recorded. Many more were observed but time constraints prevented their recordation. Only one witness tree, the tree at the northeast corner of the Jared Michael D.L.C., was recorded because a precise description led to its location. Other witness trees may still be standing but time constraints also prevented a search for this type of resource. (Other resource types associated with settlement, such as log cabins or hewn log houses, are discussed in the historic context entitled "19th and 20th Century Domestic Architecture". No structures of these

types were located in the course of the reconnaissance.) A resource type recorded but not predicted was the early agricultural field. Two fields recorded were among the earliest plowed agricultural fields in Linn County.

Sites were the most frequently recorded resource type. Sites were only recorded if they had historic merit--such as the Spalding Schoolhouse site and the McKinney Meeting Place site, or if they had archaeological potential-- such as early settlement sites with short occupation spans. Many sites were recorded for both reasons. Settlement sites impacted by later developments were not recorded.

Settlement sites were located using the overlays of the 1853 Cadastral maps. In almost all cases, these maps were very accurate allowing us to pinpoint the site immediately with artifact scatters verifying the location. The settlement sites located on the Calapooia River Valley plain were generally disturbed by agricultural activities such as plowing. Their locations were not obvious since landscape elements such as trees and orchards had long ago been destroyed. On the other hand, those early sites located in the interface areas were easily identified by remnant orchards and deciduous trees. In almost all cases, these sites were located on or near a draw which undoubtedly provided a source of water. The visual aspect of these sites, which has been little disturbed, is valuable for interpreting the early settlement period of this area given the almost total destruction of structures from this period. Several settlement sites were not visited. These included the settlement sites of John and William Finley (Findley), Eli Michael, and William Hawk. Some sites were visited, but in a few cases, no artifacts were located. For instance, river changes have obscured the J.R. Templeton settlement site.

Traces of both the Territorial Road and the late 1840's road to the Finley gristmill were located. In both cases, the roadbed is interrupted by modern developments. The McHargue schoolhouse site has recently been disturbed by logging activity but a subterranean feature, such as a privy, may still be intact.

Seventeen of the 28 pre-1856 sites are located at the valley foothill interface, eight are located in the Calapooia River Valley, two are located in the "gap" and one is located on a butte.

RESOURCE EVALUATION

Almost all of the resources representing the context of settlement have been evaluated as significant or potentially significant. Sites with archaeological potential may meet Criteria D of the National Register. Only archaeological testing of these sites could verify their significance. Several sites may be historically significant for association with an individual or developments identified in the historic context. Other sites are significant for their role in Linn County history such as the first schoolhouse and church building location in Linn County. Union Point, for instance, has broader historical significance as the site where the First United Presbyterian Church in the world was organized. The Territorial Road is significant for the role it played in the settlement of this region, and the gold rush, as is the road leading to Finley's gristmill, the first gristmill in the Willamette Valley south of Oregon City. A more intensive survey of the roads is required to determine the extent of remaining portions of these roads and to answer questions concerning integrity.

The context of settlement is poorly represented by standing structures. The Hugh Leeper Brown Barn (ca. 1849), currently listed on the National Register, is the only standing structure dating to the 1840's in the project area, and one of only several rural buildings dating to this period in the state. (Outside of the project area but in close geographical proximity is the 1847 Kirk log house which is located within the city of Brownsville.) The two farmhouses, the Jonathan Keeney house (1852) and the William Cochran House (ca. 1852) are both substantially altered. Since these are the only two houses surveyed which represent settlement in the area, they may be locally significant. The Keeney house is striking in its setting and form, which still conveys the feeling of a farm house and farm site from this early period. Both houses are associated with individuals identified as important for this historic context.

Several resources were determined not to be significant. For instance, the Jared Michael "witness tree" has blown down and is now rotting on the ground.

TABLE 1

Resources associated with Settlement and Community Development

(From the reconnaissance of current project.)

21	Late 1840's road from Territorial Road to Finley gristmill
22	Agricultural field (McHargue)
23	Donation Land Claim line (between McHargue and Osborn D.L.C.)
24	Agricultural field (Josiah Osborn)
26	James McHargue settlement site and orchard
27	McHargue cemetery
28	McHargue schoolhouse site
29	Josiah Osborn settlement site
33	R.C. Finley gristmill site
34	R.C. Finley House*
60	Jonathan Keeney House
63	Hugh Fields settlement site
209	Jared Michael witness tree
246	James Keeney settlement site
278	Spalding schoolhouse site
295	McKinney Meeting House and parsonage site
298	Luther White stagecoach stop site*
306	Territorial Road
307	R.C. Finley settlement site
332	Amos Allison settlement site
336	David Templeton settlement site
338	J. Gray settlement site
348	Union Point town site
349	Thomas Morgan settlement site and orchard
359	James Parker settlement site
360	Jared Michael settlement site
361	Burns settlement site
363	William Templeton settlement site

TABLE 1 (continued)

(Previous inventory projects.)

SHPO 309 William Cochran house

(Already listed on National Register.)

Hugh Leeper Brown barn

* Indicates resource does not date from settlement period but person associated with resource was identified as an important early settler in historic context.

Bold lettering indicates resource site significant or potentially significant and one or a number of treatment strategies should be applied.

TABLE 2

Resource Types associated with Settlement and Community Development

Road trace =	2
Agricultural fields =	2
D.L.C. lines =	1
Individual settlement sites =	13
Gristmill site =	1
Other resources identified with important individuals =	2
Farmhouses =	2
Witness tree =	1
Schoolhouse sites =	2
Church and parsonage site =	1
Town site =	1
Cemetery =	1
Barn =	1

TABLE 2

Resource Types associated with Settlement and Community Development

Road trace =	2
Agricultural fields =	2
D.L.C. lines =	1
Individual settlement sites =	13
Gristmill site =	1
Other resources identified with important individuals =	2
Farmhouses =	2
Witness tree =	1
Schoolhouse sites =	2
Church and parsonage site =	1
Town site =	1
Cemetery =	1
Barn =	1

THEME: DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

SCOPE: 1846-1940

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Domestic Architecture 1846-1860

Among the first tasks of the newly arrived settler was the construction of a shelter. Philip Dole notes that in the Willamette Valley on "a typical claim, three successive homes would be built, each an improvement over the preceding one. The last was, of course, the lumber house, but for almost every farm, that "real house" was at least six years into the future."¹

"A home of the first type...is characterized by the speed of its erection; the use of rails or poles (round logs); the small size...; and what it was called as "shelter", "rail pen", or "log cabin".² According to Mrs. Andrew Kirk, daughter of Riley Kirk, her father's first home was made merely by building a rail pen underneath a wide-spreading white fir tree. Beneath this tree, they lived all of the first summer and far into the early winter.³ Her father's first house after the fir tree shelter "was a tiny shanty". Father got a froe and rived out boards to cover it."⁴ John Wigle provides a brief description of his first residence noting that the "...dwelling house consisted of one room, a round log house very similar to our school house in Illinois."⁵ His bedroom was a "pole pen about ten feet square."⁶ Hugh Brown, a native of Tennessee and former resident of Missouri who settled on the Calapooia in the fall of 1846, built a double-pen log cabin - two cabins connected by a breezeway.⁷ This type of cabin, was carried from the upper south to the mid-west and Missouri.⁸

Sometimes the second dwelling built on a claim was a hewn log house. A hewn log cabin was built on the James Blakely claim in 1848.⁹ With the exception of the use of hewn logs, the building resembles a single pen cabin typically built using rounded logs (Figure 1). In contrast to the log cabin, the logs of the hewn log house were square and the house generally had glazed windows, doors, a fireplace, a staircase and one or two porches.¹⁰ The Alexander Kirk house, built in 1847, was also a hewn log house.¹¹ Like many hewn log houses, the Kirk cabin was later covered with weatherboards probably to provide an additional seal and to make the house appear more up-to-date.¹²

With the establishment of sawmills in a region, construction of real lumber houses began. In 1850, J.R. Templeton operated what was perhaps the first sawmill in the area on the Calapooia river east of the later Brownsville location.¹³ (There are some references referring to a sawmill operated by the Courtney Family at an earlier date on Courtney Creek.) The rush to the gold fields at about that time provided construction capital and for some a good house often appeared on a claim within a year or two of the gold rush.¹⁴ Sometimes the previous cabin was incorporated in the construction of the lumber house. The daughter of James McHargue noted that the cabin in which they once lived stood in the location of the kitchen in the lumber house. "When father built that "new" house, he left the old cabin to be used as a kitchen. Later, he tore the old cabin down and built a better kitchen in its place."¹⁵

In the 1850's, three structural systems were available for the lumber house: hewn frame, balloon frame and the box house.¹⁶ A hewn frame house was generally of post-and-girt construction in which horizontal and vertical members were connected with hewn joints. A description of an 1850's hewn frame house was provided by Mrs. Henry Parrish who noted that her husband's father's house, the Gamalial Parrish house built in 1854 (located just outside the northern boundary of the project area), was

"...a wonderful house...Every bit of the frame...hand-hewed with broad-ax and the frame...is put together with wooden pegs - not a nail or spike in the frame. All of the doors, the window sashes, the window frames were hand-made as well as the mantel and the casings of the fireplace... The first roof was of hand split, hand-shaved cedar and it lasted without replacement for 56 years, or until 1910."¹⁷

By the 1860's use of a hewn framing system was no longer popular for house construction.¹⁸

The balloon frame was built using 2x4's with nailed joints. The studs were full height (not interrupted at the second floor by a heavy plate).¹⁹ Box construction consists of vertical planks laid side-by-side forming the walls of the house. Each plank was nailed to the sill below and at the top of the plate.²⁰ There were no posts nor studs. The advantage of box

construction was that it used 1/3 the wood of other systems and 1/2 the nails.²¹

Redman Pearl, son of James Pearl, noted that houses were first framed on the grounds, and the framed "beunts" would be raised, all of the neighbors coming together to lift the heavy frame."²²

Lumber houses built in Oregon in the 1850's were generally rectangular in form with symmetrically placed and sized windows, doors, and chimneys.²³ Projecting porches were detailed to emphasize the bulk and shape of the main rectangular volume.²⁴ The roof pitch was low, generally 30 degrees or flatter.²⁵ Even within these parameters, there was great variety in early lumber houses reflecting the various backgrounds of the owners and/or builders and the use of different stylistic elements. The following descriptions of traditional house types from the 1850's is taken from Dole 1974:²⁶

Two story, central hall house - Two story house with a centrally located front door. The door opens into a hallway which has an open staircase. On either side of the hallway is a formal system of rooms with the kitchen and sometimes the dining room in a one story rear wing. Front door often has transom and sidelights. Most of the exteriors were in the Classical Revival style but a few were in the earlier Federal or Colonial style.

One story, central hall house - Same as above but only one and one-half stories.

Side entrance hall, temple form house - Entrance to long stair hall is at one side of the front. One and one-half and two story examples.

Central living room house - No entry hall or hallways. Front door, on the center, enters directly into the living room, facing the fireplace. Plan usually has symmetry. Often Classical elements.

Small Cottage type (pre-1860) - One or one and one-half stories with an all purpose room. A fireplace is located at one end of the room and a small winding stair leads to a second floor bedroom.

Double house - Two front entry doors. Could be one, one and one-half or full two stories. Colonial, Federal, or Classical detailing.

Many of the early houses in the project area used stone from a local quarry for foundations and fireplaces. Albert G. Waggoner, in his pioneer recollections, recalled that there was;

"...an old stone quarry on my land on the Gap Road about half a mile beyond the Union Point schoolhouse. Many of the early fireplaces in this region were made from stone quarried here, which will stand continued heating and freezing without cracking or splitting...The land was first taken up by Sam Brown in 1852, and the foundation of his house was made from the stone."²⁷

Mr. Waggoner also noted that the fireplace in the 1847 Alexander Kirk House in Brownsville was made of this stone. Miles Carey was hired to build the fireplace.²⁸ Rev. Wilson Blain, founder of Union Point, also referred to this stone noting that;

"...within three quarters of a mile of our place an extensive deposit of argillaceous rock...will be invaluable for building purposes. When first taken from the quarry it is so soft that it can be hewn with an ax and dressed with a jack plane. It soon hardens on exposure, and proved more durable than brick. It is not injured by fire."²⁹

An important carpenter of the 1850's was Peter Kesling. Of Mr. Kesling, Catharine McHargue Hume, daughter of James McHargue, recalls that in addition to her father's 1852 house;

"He built many of the first good houses in this region, when the settlers became prosperous enough, and when sawmills were started to make sawed lumber available. Among the very old houses standing, which, I believe, he built, are - the Tom Kirk House, a mile south of Brownsville; the [Jonathan] Keeney house, the Fields house and the James Blakely House."³⁰ (See Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5.)

Peter Kesling also worked with another carpenter, A.S. Bassett. Kesling and Bassett are credited with having built the Eli Michael House.³¹ The Eli Michael House was built in 1858.³² Another early carpenter was William Matlock who was also a bridge builder. He was supposed to have built the first frame residence erected at Brownsville (in the vicinity of the later woolen mills.)³³ Josiah Osborn was also a carpenter who was building a mill at the Whitman mission in Idaho time of the massacre. His contributions locally are not known. William Linville, who may have operated the first planing mill in the region, was also a carpenter. He apparently lived "next door" to Kesling in 1860.³⁴ Other carpenters listed in the 1860 census records were David McDowell (who also owned a sawmill), Woody Reuben, John Nelson, Mathew Bryson, Edward West, Alexander Brandon (part owner of the Boston grist mill), Eugene Frum, and Robert Copic.³⁵

George Colbert and J.M. Moyer were friends who emigrated to Oregon in 1850.³⁶ Both were carpenters and "soon after arriving, Mr. Moyer went to work building a house for H.L. Brown."³⁷ Colbert is credited with having built the Harrison house.³⁸ Colbert also worked with Joseph Lame, a carpenter from the Halsey vicinity. Lame was supposedly the builder of the earlier Oakville United Presbyterian Church (located outside of the project area) and the Brownsville Presbyterian Church. George Colbert was also involved in the construction of many of the first houses in Halsey when it was platted in the early 1870's.

In 1863, J.M. Moyer established a sash and door factory in Brownsville (Figure 6).³⁹ Moyer purchased the property for his sash and door factory from Wm. Linville for \$2,500.00 in 1863.⁴⁰ Linville, who purchased this property in 1861, had a planing mill on this site.⁴¹ One of these early carpenters, Moyer, Kesling, Linville, or A.S. Bassett was probably responsible for decorative strapwork cornices and intricate ornamentation seen on the regions early houses. These elements "gave the city's architecture a particular elegance which no other locality could match."⁴² These elements may have been associated with Moyer because of similar detailing on the present Moyer house. Philip Dole, in reference to the cornice of the Blakely house, makes the following comments:

"...diamond cut-outs glued to frieze board in fanciful version of the Classic Revival "egg and Dart" motif. It is characteristic of the design and craftsmanship at Brownsville which was never the same on any two houses. Hugh Fields' egg and darts were cutouts of open tulips."⁴³

Peter Kesling is credited with having built both the Blakely house and the Fields house suggesting that perhaps he was responsible for the decorative work on many of the early houses. An unidentified photograph of a house in Brownsville (Figure 7) illustrates the unusual decorative touches applied to an early house including an intricate vergeboard of pendant Gothic tracery, decoratively sawn pilasters topped by urns, and window hoods much like those suggested by Andrew Jackson Downing in his Architecture of Country Houses.

Domestic Architecture 1860-1875

Between the years of 1860 and 1875, home building in the Willamette Valley can be characterized as follows: houses which continued traditional thinking; those adopting the Gothic Revival and other new styles; and those expressing a new current of concern for utilitarianism and functionalism.⁴⁴ Some buildings combined these aspects in varying degrees.⁴⁵ The most obvious visual and planning change was toward complex houses made of several volumes.⁴⁶ Each area took form as a separate wing which would be arranged perpendicular to another.⁴⁷ Outside spaces also became more specialized.⁴⁸ "Other houses reduced detail to the essentials to present a plain, straightforward appearance, though always with some traditional aspect, their style is essentially utilitarian."⁴⁹

Crucial to Oregon's architectural development were planning mills and sash and door and blind factories.⁵⁰ In 1863, J.M. Moyer established a sash and door factory in Brownsville.⁵¹ Planed lumber, as opposed to rough sawn lumber, was available in the Brownsville locality beginning in ca. 1860.⁵² "The products of these industries facilitated adaptation for houses of current national architectural style, which depended on complex decorative elements..."⁵³ Some building materials, such as brick, were not available locally in 1864 when Robert Montgomery was building a new house and "was forced to go to Harrisburg for the brick used."⁵⁴

The Gothic Revival style was locally popular during this period. Hallmarks of Gothic Revival architecture, popular in the 1860's and 1870's, were a steep roof pitch, complex decorative elements applied primarily to eaves and porches, prominent gables with wide overhanging eaves, and sometimes a lancet shaped opening(s) in the form of a door or a window (Figure 8). A majority of the walls were finished with horizontal siding instead of the vertical siding recommended for Gothic architecture. Sometimes, Gothic Revival stylistic elements were simply applied to houses that were otherwise traditional. A portion of the new construction during the period between 1860 and 1875 was the result of a pioneer's death, a marriage, or the subdivision of a claim, but much of the new construction reflected the expanded scale of farming and domestic operations which required more specialized facilities.⁵⁵ Local carpenters during this time period included J. M. Moyer, Peter Kesling, A.S. Bassett, George Colbert, Lucius Rice, Enoch and Augustus Thompson, Thomas Mills, William B. Smith, David Putnam, John Harper, and Theodore Cartwright. Moyer, Kesling, Bassett, and Colbert were known to have built houses in the area.

Domestic Architecture 1875-1900

New houses constructed during this period in the Willamette Valley ranged from commodious utilitarian farmhouses, generally plain except for porch detail, to local expressions of a succession of national styles; Italian Villa, Second Empire, High Gothic and the Queen Anne.⁵⁶ Generally in Oregon, local interpretation of the national styles as applied to rural houses was varied producing great variety and individuality.⁵⁷ "The house in a current style had urban and suburban origins; selection of such a house for an isolated, rural site in the Willamette Valley shows the prosperity, sophistication, and/or aspirations of the farmer in the railroad period."⁵⁸

"The new farmhouses built between 1875 and 1900 have been called collectively, "Western Farmhouses" because similar farms seem to have appeared at about the same time across the rural American West."⁵⁹

"The term "Western Farmhouse" designates that extensive group of rather plain rural homes built throughout the 1870-1900 period in the

Willamette Valley which do not comfortably fit within any national stylistic architectural vogue. In some respects, they are a derivation of the Rural Gothic Cottage Style of the 1860's. As a group, they express, as they reasonably should, interest in utility at reasonable cost - a comfortable home."⁶⁰

"Regardless of stylistic affinities, these "Western farmhouses" were roughly alike in volumetric organization and plan layout.⁶¹ Two forms which persisted throughout this period were the "T" shape house and a house composed of several perpendicular wings or "Ls".⁶² Houses had high ceilings, bay windows, and numerous porches.⁶³ Even if ornamentation was absent on the body of the house, porches had ornamental posts, brackets, and railings.⁶⁴ As in the earlier period, a few houses retained strong traditional affinities, often incorporated with new fashions.⁶⁵

Local carpenters during this period included Peter Kesling, A.S. Bassett and Co., Henry Keys, Ephriam Orebaugh, David C. Cushman, John Harper, William A. Blain, Charles H. Elswick, S.H. White, Lewis R. Sanders, L.P. Gerow and a Mr. McClaren. J.M. Moyer may have built his own house during this period but he had so many business interests that it is unlikely that he built other houses. Kesling and Keys were known to have built houses in the area. Peter Kesling platted an addition to Brownsville in the 1890's.⁶⁶ Henry Keys built an Italianate style house for himself in Harrisburg during this period.⁶⁷ By 1884, a sash and door factory was established in Crawfordsville by the Glass Brothers.⁶⁸ Brick was available locally either from a brickyard on the Amen farm, 1/2 mile east of Brownsville, or from a brickyard on the former McKinney place west of Brownsville.⁶⁹

Domestic Architecture 1900-1940

New farmhouses built at this time may have been the result of subdivision of the farm, loss of an earlier house by fire, or a decision that the old house was inadequate or old fashioned. In the early years of the 20th century, the area saw a population increase with many of the older farms

being subdivided at that time.⁷⁰ Substantial changes took place in building materials, construction methods, and house design in the period shortly after 1900.

"Clapboard and shingle siding replaced shiplap siding; concrete foundations and walks became commonplace. The structure itself became heavier and involved a structural system that is still in force: floors with subflooring, outside walls with sheathing; and hardwood floors, probably oak, at least in the living room. Windows were primarily clear glass and included the first large sheets - the first picture windows. Decorative glass included etched, beveled, and leaded."⁷¹

By 1920, mechanical improvements such as running water, a full bathroom, a one pipe hot air furnace or radiators, and electric wiring were incorporated into most new building.⁷² Cabinet work was available from mail order catalogues or the local planing mill.⁷³ Items included complete staircases, fireplace walls with glass doored bookcases, built-in serving buffets and china cabinets.⁷⁴ Locally, the Calapooia Lumber Co. had rustic flooring, ceilings and moldings, cedar shingles, doors, and windows available.⁷⁵ A.U. Bannard, of Brownsville also sold door, windows, shingles, hardware, etc.⁷⁶ Entire houses in a choice of plans could be ordered by catalogue.⁷⁷ There were even some prefabricated houses of standardized, partly assembled units available.⁷⁸

Some houses dating to the early 1900's were simply evolved versions of the farmhouses which emerged in the 1870's, incorporating new materials and amenities but maintaining the straightforward, plain, Gothic-derived appearance. Other houses built at this time were the result of major new architectural concepts ushered in by the first wave of architectural modernism in the form of the Craftsman and Prairie style.⁷⁹ Vernacular examples of the Prairie style were widely spread by pattern books and popular magazines between the period of 1905 and 1915.⁸⁰ The Craftsman style, in the form of the Craftsman Bungalow, became the most popular smaller house in the country.⁸¹ Vernacular examples were also widely available in plan books and popular magazines.

In Oregon, the Bungalow was popular in urban settings but was also found on farm sites.

"The bungalow placed a new emphasis on the large, simple roof, usually carried over a one-and-a-half story building of large rectangular shape with a porch across the front. Porch and house all under one low roof emphasized broad, low characteristics of the building...In larger two-storied Bungalow style houses horizontality was even more strongly accomplished with second floor porches, balconies and the broad eaves of the first floor projections. The exterior opened up visually...it opened up in fact through projecting windows, large areas of glass, window seats and french doors. The interior opened up too. Rooms, often fairly high, were proportioned to their size; ornamental beamed ceilings and broad framed openings between dining room and living room, and double glazed cabinets between dining room and kitchen created a sense of wide horizontal dimensions and new kind of domestic living, more informal and more intimate."⁸²

The bungalow's popularity diminished greatly after the mid-1920's. Revival styles, based on historical European architecture and the American Colonial period, dominated domestic building during the 1920's and 1930's. Vernacular examples of farmhouses were probably also built in this area during the early 20th century. These houses were generally small and either side-gabled, front-gabled, or pyramidal with a hip roof, but lacking stylistic elements.

Carpenters during this period included H.A. Stanard, F.A. Fisher, Lester Walker, the Brownsville Construction Co. (M.T. Boyd, manager), George Drinkard and Max Sawyer. A 1903 article in The Brownsville Times noted that carpenters were scarce.⁸³ Daniel Fisher was listed as a Brownsville architect in the 1913-1914 directory.⁸⁴ J.L. Armstrong did brick, stone and cement work.⁸⁵ Hugh Moyer operated his father's sash and door factory and planning and sawmill.⁸⁶

Prominent Individuals
Associated with the theme of Domestic Architecture

Peter Kesling - Early builder born in Ohio who built a number of early houses in the project area, including the Hugh Fields House which is one of only two temple-fronted Greek Revival style houses with four-columned portico remaining in the state. May be responsible for unique decorative work found on early houses of this area.

A.S. Bassett - For some time, Mr. Bassett was Peter Kesling's partner. Mr. Bassett was also a partner in a local planing mill and in the 1870's owned part interest in a sash and door factory in Halsey.

J.M. Moyer - Early carpenter in the area and owner of the sash and door factory in Brownsville. The Moyer House in Brownsville is probably Oregon's best example of an "Italian Villa" style house. Moyer may be responsible for the assortment of "unique" decorative trim found on early houses in the region.

George Colbert - One time building partner of J.M. Moyer. Built houses in the project area as well as in Halsey.

Joseph Lane - Worked with George Colbert. Among his credits are the construction of the earlier Oakville United Presbyterian Church. His house is still standing just north of Halsey (outside of the project area).

Wm. Linville - Carpenter and owner of several sawmills and an early planing mill in the area.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

Previous surveys have identified ten farmhouses and one water tower in the project area. These are: the William Cochran House (Figure 9), the Keeney-Overton House (Figure 10), the Paul Belts House (Figure 11), and the Hugh Fields House (Figure 4) (from the 1846-1860 period); the Thomas

J. Cooper House (Figure 12) and the Cora Cox House (Figure 13) (from the 1860-1875 period); the C.J Howe House (Figure 14), the Robert G. Cochran House (Figure 15), the John and Amelia Brown House (Figure 16) and the A.J. Wigle House (Figure 17) (from the 1875-1900 period); and the Henry Harmon Spalding House (Figure 18) (remodeled). The water tower, known as the Seefeld water tower, was supposedly built in about 1903 (Figure 19).

Resource Types

The following resource types can be associated with the theme of Domestic Architecture:

- Log cabin
- Hewn log house
- Farmhouse (see text for stylistic types)
- Water tower
- privy (outhouse)
- woodshed
- wash house
- well or pump house
- root cellar
- summer kitchen
- fruit house
- spring house
- cooler
- (auto garage or carriage barn)

Discussion

Based on their general disappearance as a resource type in the Willamette Valley, it is unlikely that any log cabins or hewn log houses have survived in the project area. In Brownsville, the Kirk log house still stands although it has been covered by weatherboard siding (Figure 20). If any log cabins or houses have survived in the project area, they are likely "disguised" in the same manner as the Kirk cabin.

Early settlement on the Calapooia consisted of many former neighbors and a number of interrelated family groups or clans. This social characteristic

could have had an impact on the early architecture of the Brownsville region. Philip Dole has noted that there is "...some tendency for sub-regions of the Willamette Valley to take on a consistency distinct from all other regions; and a pronounced conservatism in all building - the house or barn constructed would be like that a grandfather or great grandfather would have built in Pennsylvania or Virginia."

"In general, the adult population of the Calapooia during the initial stages of settlement had been born in the upper South states of Kentucky, Tennessee, some others in Virginia and Pennsylvania, and a mere handful in New England and New York. These people grew up in Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. They married in Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, and had their first children in the latter two states, and then moved on to Oregon and the Calapooia."⁸⁷

By looking at the photographs of early lumber houses, including those previously inventoried in the project area, it appears that there were a variety of early house types. James McHargue and Hugh Brown both had two-story double houses with verandas.⁸⁸ James McHargue was born in Kentucky and Hugh Brown was born in Tennessee. This type of house was traditional in both Tennessee and Kentucky.⁸⁹ The James McHargue House was built in 1852 by Peter Kesling (Figure 2).⁹⁰ William Templeton also had a side-gabled two-story house but the photograph does not show the lower story well enough to determine if it was a double house (Figure 21). Just to the north of the project area is the William Sperry house. The Sperry house, also a double house, is unique with the front on the gable end and thirteen pilasters on the main facade⁹¹ (Figure 22). The one and one-half story Hugh Fields house (about 1859) is one of only two Greek Revival style houses in Oregon which exemplify the temple fronted type with four-columned portico⁹² (Figure 5). More common locally, or perhaps more have survived, were small, front-gabled one and one-half story houses. Photographs and illustrations indicate that some 1850's examples had wide frieze boards with heavy cornice treatment and partial eave returns while other examples had much simpler treatment of the cornice and no returning eaves (Figures 23, 24 and 25).

These small one and one-half story houses continued to be built in the 1860's, but the roofs generally became steeper, cornices simpler, and

more Gothic derived elements such as vergeboards and/or lancet windows were sometimes incorporated (Figures 7 and 8). Other houses were more traditional, such as the D.C. Cushman house, a traditional "I" house. (David Cushman was a local carpenter.) (Figure 26.) The Cora Cox house, attributed to this period, is essentially Classic Revival but incorporates Gothic design elements in the porch (Figure 13). The Thomas Cooper house, a side-gabled house with a gable wall dormer located centrally on the main facade, is another type of Gothic Revival style house of this period (Figure 12). Traditional houses continued to be built during this period (Figures 27 and 28).

Until the 1860's, houses generally had 6/6 double-hung sash windows. After that time, beginning in about 1863 for instance in nearby Harrisburg, which is located southwest of the project area, 4/4 windows were available although 6/6 were also still available for a number of years.

Between 1875 and 1900, the western farmhouse was popular. These houses often incorporated decorative elements of the Victorian styles popular at that time. Two examples in the project area are (were) the J.C. Morgan House and the Hugh Cochran House (Figures 29 and 30).

National styles popular during this period included the Italian Villa or Italianate styles, Second Empire style, and the Queen Anne style. Examples could be multi-storied or one story "cottages". The city of Brownsville has perhaps the best example of an Italian Villa style house remaining in Oregon - the J.M. Moyer House. The Moyer House has been described as an impressive country villa with picturesque Downing attributes and a rich decorative scheme.⁹³ In the project area, the John and Amelia Brown house is an excellent rural example of an Italianate style house (Figure 16). Other examples of Italianate farmhouses in the project area include(d) the Frank and Ione Cochran House (Figure 31), the Robert Cochran House, and the Calloway House (Figure 32). Generally, the Second Empire style was is rare for farm residences. A good example of a Queen Anne style farmhouse is the J.H. Wigle House (Figure 17). Often in rural settings, the Queen Anne style was limited to some elements of the style applied to the rural vernacular or "Western Farmhouse" as in the case of the house attributed to Henry Spalding. The rear portion of the

house associated with Spalding is said to pre-date the front portion (Figure 18). One over one double-hung sash windows were used beginning in about 1880 in houses of all styles of this period. Of course, other types of windows were used in addition to 1/1 windows for the Queen Anne style, a style whose hallmark was variety.

No houses dating to the 20th century were previously inventoried in the project area. Several examples were previously inventoried within the city limits of Brownsville. Three examples are one and one-half story houses with hipped roofs and Craftsman detailing while one example is a front-gabled Craftsman Bungalow. All are wood-frame. A photograph discovered in the course of current research illustrates a bungalow constructed of "miracle hollow blocks" which were manufactured of cement but made to imitate stone (Figure 33). Based on the availability of different materials and plans for 20th century houses, it is anticipated that there will be a wide range of early 20th century house types and styles in the project area. Catalogue houses from Sears and other companies were also available.

Domestic Outbuildings

A number of buildings and structures were built near the farmhouse which were related to the running of the household. Most of these "house group" buildings were utilitarian and lacked stylistic elements. In the 1880's, the development of pumping and gravity water systems resulted in the construction of water towers and windmills.⁹⁴ These structures were often in close proximity to the house because of their association with wells which were usually located in the back of the houses near the kitchen.⁹⁵ The tower, topped by a light metal wheel, housed a large wooden tank.⁹⁶ The tower supplied running water to the kitchen.⁹⁷ Often, a bit later, the pantry or a room off the kitchen became an indoor bathroom.⁹⁸ Because of its proximity to the house, the water tower was often finished architecturally. Water towers were most popular in the period between the period of 1890 and 1910.⁹⁹ Woodsheds were often attached to the rear of the house in the 19th and early 20th centuries. For this reason, exterior finish treatment found on the house often extended to the woodshed, albeit simpler. Springhouses and coolers, were often constructed of brick, stone, or red hollow brick. Fruit houses and wooden coolers would

often have sawdust in the walls for insulation. In the 20th century, auto garages were often constructed in close proximity to the house. In urban areas especially, architectural details found on the house sometimes carried over to the garage.

Distribution

Farmhouses dating to the earliest period (1846-1860) were located in the Calapooia River Valley and tributary stream valleys; along the foothill-valley interface in the vicinity of the Territorial Highway; and at the base of hills and buttes. In the next period (1860-1875), settlement extended to the less well-drained areas of the Willamette valley floor and to the more rugged foothill areas northeast and southeast of Brownsville. By 1875, farmhouses were probably located in most areas. Houses built in the rugged foothills were probably more vernacular than contemporaneous houses in more productive areas. Density of farmhouses is anticipated to be much lower in the foothills since more land was required to make a living and the land was less desirable.

Methodology

In order to systematically survey farmhouses, a reconnaissance level survey will be accomplished on a section by section basis using 1950 U.S.G.S. maps for building locations. Other data on farmhouse location such as that provided by the overlays of the 1853 G.L.O. cadastral maps the 1878 Williams atlas maps, and aerial photographs, will be used in conjunction with the U.S.G.S. maps.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

A total of 145 resources representing the context of Domestic Architecture were recorded during the reconnaissance phase. (Thirteen of these resources were pumphouses. Not all pumphouses were part of the "house group" but this distinction was not made often enough during fieldwork to be able to separate those pumphouses which belong to the "farm group".) Previous survey projects recorded 9 resources for a total of 154 resources associated with this context. All surveyed resources associated with the

context of Domestic Architecture are listed in Tables 1a-1i. Resource types are enumerated in Table 2, and Table 3 enumerates farmhouses by geographic region and style.

Of the 84 farmhouses recorded during this and previous survey projects, approximately 32% date to the 19th century, 33% date to the 20th century and the remaining 10% were built so close to the turn of the century that this determination cannot be made without more research on their history. Twenty-five percent of the farmhouses were so altered that they were not included in these figures.

As anticipated, no log cabins or hewn log houses were located in the course of the reconnaissance. Each of the eight early lumber houses (1850-early 1860's) surveyed is different. Examples range from the "double house" of the Midland tradition to the side-gabled massed plan house of the northern tradition, to the hall and parlour house of the south. A slightly later Classical Revival example features a two-story, projecting "pedimented" portico typically of the early Classical Revival style in the south. At one time this house even had an exterior fireplace chimney, another southern characteristic.

There is only one relatively intact example of a Gothic Revival style house and even this example currently sports a metal roof and concrete block chimney. There are no examples of Gothic Revival Houses with scroll-sawn vergeboards nor were any houses found with the exterior jigsaw designs that gave this region a distinctive architectural flair. The Hugh Fields house remains the only example having these elements.

There were a number of "L" shaped, rural vernacular farmhouses. One very intact example, the 1915 Splawn House, is the latest example of this type. The Italianate style is poorly represented and with the exception of the John and Amelia Brown House, a National Register property, the selection consists of only several altered examples. As anticipated, no French Second Empire style houses were found. The Queen Anne style is also poorly represented by only several examples. The most stylized example, the Stratton House, has been altered to a great extent. The "Spalding House" is essentially a Western Farmhouse" with some Queen Anne elements. The two other examples are late and rather plain.

Most of the 20th century Craftsman and Bungalow style houses recorded were rather plain when compared to their urban counterparts. One exception was the Harding House, a large, well designed Craftsman Bungalow. Plan types were divided almost equally between side-gabled and front gabled examples. There were several examples of large, two story, L-shaped farmhouses with Craftsman elements. Historic period styles were represented by only several examples. All of the vernacular houses recorded dated from the 20th century.

All farmhouses in the project area were wood frame except for one house constructed with cast stone. The Belts farmstead has a stone cooler and the Robert Cochran farmstead has a brick cooler. There were several pumphouses constructed of red hollow brick.

In general, older farmhouses in this area are disappearing at an alarming rate. Based on the reconnaissance information, approximately 110 farmhouses have been destroyed since 1950! These houses are sometimes replaced with newer homes or mobile homes. Often, farmhouses are torn down or fall down because the land was purchased for large-scale agricultural purposes. The house is not needed and often becomes an impediment.

Outbuildings associated with the farmstead "house group" are becoming even rarer. Most outbuilding types were represented but poorly. No summer kitchens or root cellars were located. Plumbing and electricity has eliminated the need for buildings such as privies, coolers, fruit houses, water towers, and woodsheds. Auto garages have replaced carriage barns. Until recently, the only complete water tower in the project area was the Seefeld water tower which was recorded in the previous survey project. The water tower has been demolished in recent years so that today only the bases of two water towers remain in the surveyed portion of the project area.

RESOURCE EVALUATION

All farmhouses of one type or style were evaluated together. The components of each individual farmhouse were checked for integrity. A checklist was made which rated the integrity of the configuration, roof and eave detail, molding and trim, windows, siding, and porches. Once this was completed, a best example was chosen based on integrity, condition, and on how well the example illustrated the characteristics of its type. The selection of other potentially significant examples depended largely on the resource type being evaluated. For instance, the integrity threshold was much higher for 20th century houses than for 19th century houses. Associative cultural value was also taken into consideration.

Almost all early houses were evaluated as potentially significant largely because of their association with the early settlement of this area and because they were all unique. The integrity threshold for the Gothic Revival style houses was slightly higher but their rarity resulted in several altered examples being considered potentially significant. No intact example of a Gothic Revival house remains in the project area surveyed thus far.

Since Rural Vernacular farmhouses were more numerous, the integrity threshold was higher than for the earlier house types. Since there was only one unaltered example located, however, several other examples with alterations were considered potentially significant. Houses of this type with picture windows or newer windows and non-historic siding were not ranked as potentially significant unless they had associative cultural value. Queen Anne and Italianate style houses are very rare in the project area thus far surveyed and several altered examples were included in the list as potentially significant. Windows, roof form, and siding were important considerations in the evaluation of the above types.

The integrity threshold for 20th century houses was higher because of their better representation. Farmhouses of this era were considered potentially significant for architectural merit if all elements noted on the evaluation checklist were intact and, when compared to other houses of that type, they were the best example(s) of their type. On the other

hand, all Historic Period style houses were considered potentially significant because they were intact and there is only one example of each type. One exception was an altered Neo-Classical style house which was considered potentially significant because of its concrete block construction. All intact vernacular houses were ranked as potentially significant because each is unique and several show affinity to early house forms.

Outbuildings associated with the farmstead "house group" gain in significance from association with the larger farmstead. For this reason, these buildings were considered potentially significant in their own right only if they could maintain their significance even with the loss of the farmhouse and other associated buildings. Statewide Inventory forms, to be completed on potentially significant farmhouses, will address all of the other buildings on the farmstead.

There were several privies of similar design recorded in the project area. These privies are roughly square with a shed roof sloping toward the rear. These privies may have been built during the depression for farmers as part of the WPA.

TABLE 1a

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

- Early Oregon Farmhouses
- Classical and Greek Revival Style Farmhouses

(Resources recorded during current project.)

- 60 Jonathan Keeney House* (Early Oregon farmhouse - double house - altered)**
- 108 Evans House (Classical Revival)**
- 271 Unknown House (Classical Revival)
- 358 Dinwiddie House (Classical Revival)**

(Previous inventory projects.)

- SHPO 309 William Cochran House* (Altered)**
- SHPO 319 Cora Cox House (Classical Revival)**
- SHPO 320 George Overton House (Classical Revival)**
- SHPO 321 Paul Belts House (Saltbox?)**

(National Register.)

- SHPO 322 Hugh Fields House (Temple-front - Greek Revival)**

Bold indicates resources evaluated as significant or potentially significant.

* Indicates resource significant for cultural associations but does not meet the integrity threshold for type.

TABLE 1b

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

Gothic Revival Style Farmhouses

(Recorded during current project.)

53 Unknown
57 Unknown
65 Robert Montgomery House
197 Nathaniel "Gray" Rice House*
228 Unknown

(Previously recorded.)

SHPO 318 Thomas Cooper House (best example)

Bold indicates resource significant or potentially significant.

* Indicates resource has important cultural associations but does not meet integrity threshold.

TABLE 1c

Resources Representing the Theme of Domestic Architecture

Western Farmhouses (Rural Vernacular)

1	Unknown
15	Unknown
34	R.C. Finley House*
83	Unknown
102	Unknown
112	Unknown
113	Unknown
126	Splawn House (best example)
163	Unknown
165	Lincoln Overton House
172	Unknown
262	Kirk House (minimum example)
305	N.C. Dozier House

Number's 15, 83, 172, and 305 require further analysis on integrity and history before a determination is made.

Number 102 is a very good example except for picture windows. If this alteration was reversed, this resource could be significant.

Bold indicates significant or potentially significant.

TABLE 1d

Resources Representing the Theme of Domestic Architecture

Italianate Style Farmhouses

(Recorded during current project.)

164 Unknown
282 Bond House
340 Unknown

(Previous inventory projects.)

SHPO 305 Robert Cochran House (minimum example)

(National Register)

John and Amelia Brown House (best example)

Number 340 requires more analysis of its integrity and history prior to a determination.

Bold indicates significant or potentially significant.

TABLE 1e

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

Queen Anne Style Farmhouses

(Recorded during current project.)

61 Stratton House*
141 Unknown
341 Unknown

(Previously inventoried.)

SHPO 323 Spalding House (best example)**

Bold indicates resource significant or potentially significant.

* Indicates property has important cultural associations but does not meet integrity threshold.

** The best example of a rural Queen Anne style house in the area is the Wigle House (SHPO 405). The house is currently located just inside the Brownsville city limits and therefore not considered in this project.

TABLE 1f

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

Craftsman, Bungalow, and other "Modern" Farmhouse Forms

Side-gabled Bungalows and Craftsman Bungalows.

68 Unknown
93 **unknown**
104 Unknown
219 **Harding farmhouse (best example)**

Front-gabled Bungalows and Craftsman Bungalows.

44 Unknown
174 Unknown
183 **Unknown (best example)**
264 Unknown

Two story, large Craftsman influenced farmhouses.

87 Unknown
105 **Unknown**
147 Unknown
200 **Unknown (best example)**
315 Unknown

Farmhouses with "Prairie Style" influence.

88 **Unknown**
173 Unknown

American Foursquare.

100 **Unknown**

Bold indicates resource significant or potentially significant.

TABLE 1g

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

Historic Period Farmhouses

- 158 Baumgartner House (Norman Farmhouse)
- 229 Unknown (Neoclassical - concrete block)*
- 276 Samuelson House (Tudor)
- 300 Unknown (Neocolonial)

Arts and Crafts Farmhouses

- 279 Waggener House
- 330 Howe House

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant.

* Indicates resource does not meet integrity threshold but may be important for construction materials.

TABLE 1h

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

Vernacular Farmhouses

- 118 **G.P. Milde House? (hall and parlour) (best example)**
- 233 **Stubbs (massed plan, side-gabled)**
- 238 **Bierly House (massed plan, side-gabled)**
- 289 Unknown (front-gabled)
- 317 Unknown (original appearance difficult to determine due to poor physical condition)

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant.

TABLE 1i

Resources Representing the Context of Domestic Architecture

(Significant or potentially significant individual "house group"
outbuildings.)

161 Paul Belts cooler (stone construction)

101 Carriage barn

(Other outbuildings may be included in Table 1e, Significant or
Potentially Significant Farmsteads.)

TABLE 2

Enumeration of Resource Types Associated with the Context
of Domestic Architecture

(Outbuildings associated with the farmstead "house" group are included in this category.)*

Farmhouses =	84
Privies =	13
Water towers (portions of) =	2
Fruit houses =	6
Woodsheds (detached) =	7
Spring house/coolers =	3
Guest house or in-law house =	2
Auto garages =	22**
Carriage barn or stable =	2
Pumphouses =	13

* Pumphouses were sometimes associated with the farm group.

** Some of the resources designated as auto garages may have been carriage barns.

TABLE 3

Enumeration of Farmhouses by Location, Type, and Style

Sub-Regions:

Uplands =	3
Buttes =	1
Valley-Foothill Interface =	16
Tributary River Valley =	1
Calapooia River Valley =	37
Valley Floor =	26

Farmhouse Types:

Early Oregon Buildings:

Double house =	2
Salt box =	1
Greek Revival =	1
Classical Revival =	5

Gothic Revival: 5

[20th century] =	1
Rural Vernacular =	13

Italianate: 5

Queen Anne: 4

American forms:

Side-gabled bungalow =	4
Front-gabled bungalow =	4
Two-story Craftsman =	5
Hipped-roof Craftsman =	2
American Foursquare =	1

TABLE 3 continued

Arts and Crafts =	2
Vernacular =	5
Historic Period Houses:	
Neo-Classical =	2
Tudor =	1
Norman farmhouse =	1
Altered:	19

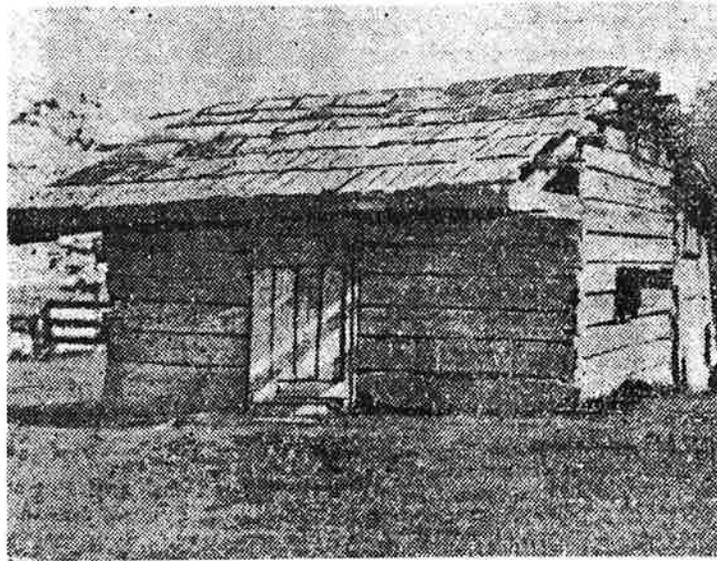


FIGURE 1: Captain James Blakely Cabin
1848 Hewn log construction
The Brownsville Times (n.d.)



FIGURE 2: James McHargue House
1852 Two-story double house with veranda and
Classical Revival detailing
Peter Kesling, builder
Philip Dole, photograph



FIGURE 3: Thomas Kirk House
1858
Peter Kesling, probable builder
W.P.A. files, State Library

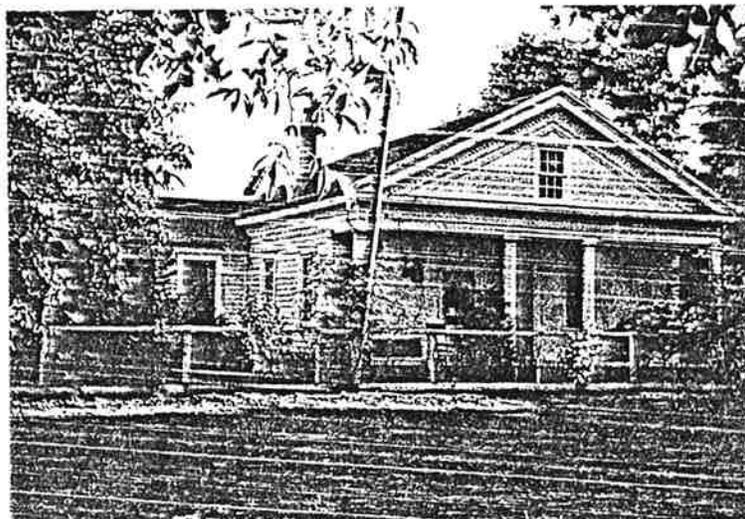
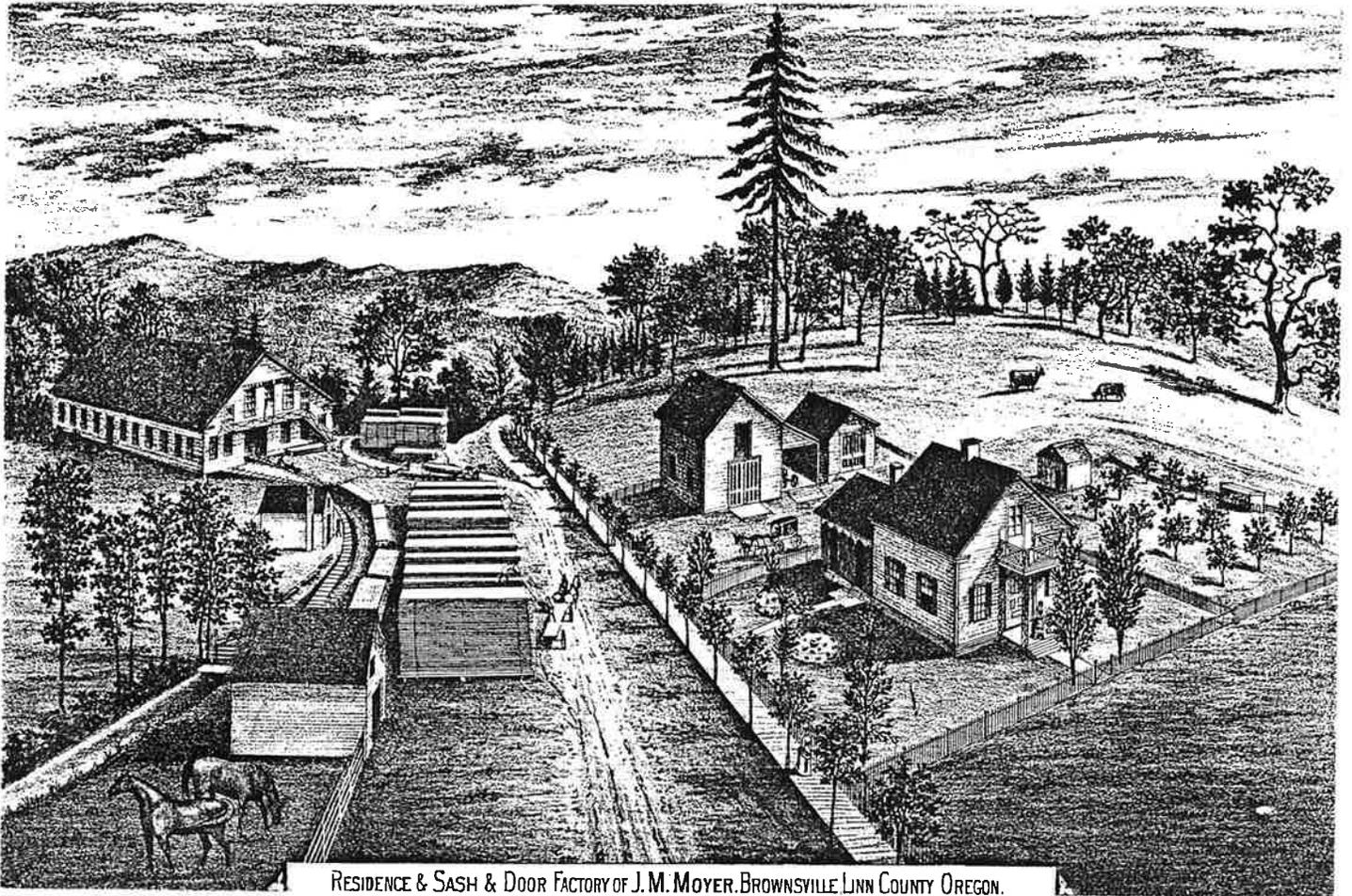


FIGURE 4: Hugh Fields House
ca. 1859 Temple-fronted type with four-columned portico,
Greek Revival style
Peter Kesling, probably builder
National Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form



FIGURE 5: Captain James Blakely House
Classical Revival style
Peter Kesling, probably builder
W.P.A. files, State Library



RESIDENCE & SASH & DOOR FACTORY OF J. M. MOYER. BROWNSVILLE LINN COUNTY OREGON.

FIGURE 6: John M. Moyer House in Brownsville
1863(?) (House could have been built in 1861 or 1862
for earlier property owner, William Linville.)
Marion and Linn County Historical
Atlas Maps



FIGURE 7: Unknown, in Brownsville
Philip Dole, photograph



FIGURE 8: Thomas Kay House
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 9: William Cochran House
ca. 1850
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 10: Keeney-Overton House
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3

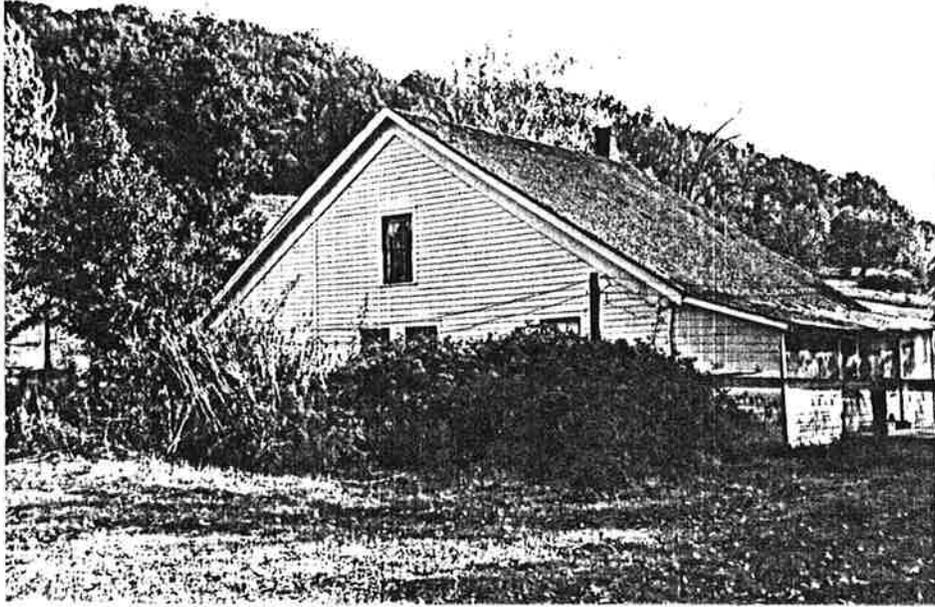


FIGURE 11: Paul Belts House
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3



FIGURE 12: Thomas J. Cooper House
ca. 1875 Cross gable is Gothic Revival element
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3



FIGURE 13: Cora Cox House
ca. 1865
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3



FIGURE 14: The C.J. Howe House
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3

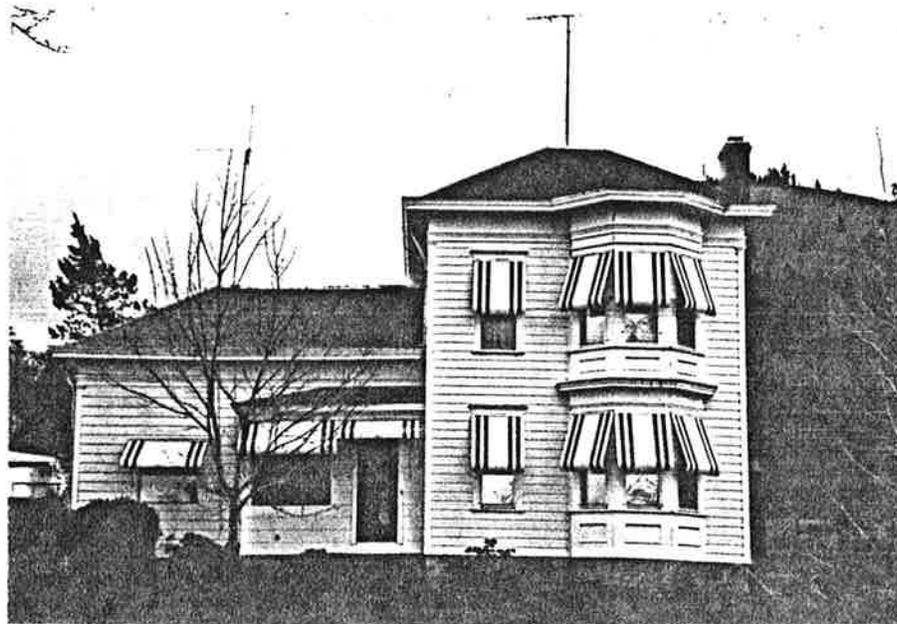


FIGURE 15: Robert G. Cochran House
ca. 1888 Italianate
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3



FIGURE 16: John and Amelia Brown House
ca. 1880 Italianate style
National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form



FIGURE 17: Jacob H. Wigle House
1890's Queen Anne style
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville



FIGURE 18: House located on former Spalding
Donation Land Claim
Western Farmhouse with Queen Anne detailing
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 19: Henry Seefeld Water Tower
ca. 1903 Water Tower
Linn County Inventory of Historic Resources, 1982-3



FIGURE 20: Alexander Kirk House
1847(?) Hewn log house, later covered with weatherboard siding
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 21: William Templeton House
1854(?) Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville
(photograph dates to 1863 according to a family member)



FIGURE 22: William Sperry House
Double house, Classical Revival style
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville



FIGURE 23: Joseph Pearl House
1850's Classical Revival style
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 24: N.S. Walters House
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 25: Hugh L. Brown House, in Brownsville
1850's
W.P.A. files, State Library



FIGURE 26: D.C. Cushman House
"I" House, a traditional, vernacular form which
was two-stories high and one room deep
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville



FIGURES 27 and 28: Unknown
Philip Dole, photograph



FIGURE 29: J.C. Morgan House
Western Farmhouse
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville



FIGURE 30: Hugh and Flora Cochran House
Western Farmhouse
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville

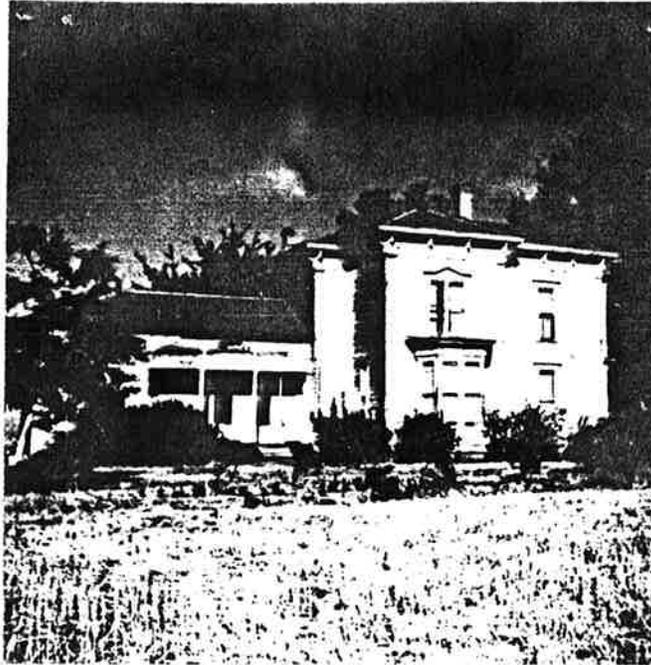


FIGURE 31: Frank and Ione Cochran House
Italianate
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville



FIGURE 32: Burl and Ida Calloway House
ca. 1892 Italianate style
Mr. McClaren, builder
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville



FIGURE 33: Joseph Hume House
ca. 1912 Craftsman bungalow
Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville

THEME: AGRICULTURE: FARMING / STOCK RAISING / HORTICULTURE

SCOPE: 1846-1940

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Farming

After the construction of a shelter, a primary objective of the early settlers was the clearing of land for cultivation. At first, these cultivated fields were small, just large enough to raise some "wheat and a little garden and oats."¹ Sometimes clearing land called for a "log rolling". A settler "would cut down the trees on his land, trim them up, and burn the brush. Then he would have the neighbors in to help roll the remaining great logs together into piles to burn."²

The 1850 census records indicate that during this early period of settlement, the agricultural development of this region was limited.³ Settlers lived at the subsistence level, producing enough to meet their own needs. Potatoes, swine, and wild game were relied upon heavily.⁴ Supposedly, Isaac Courtney, who settled on the Calapooia in 1846, was one of the first settlers in Linn County to plant wheat.⁵ In 1847, James McHargue purchased the squatter's rights to a piece of land three miles southeast of Brownsville. This land already had "a small log cabin on it and a few acres planted to wheat--perhaps 20 acres."⁶

Early settlers harvested wheat by cutting the standing grain with a cradle. After the grain was cut, it was tied into sheaves. The sheaves were then taken to the barn where the kernels were threshed out by trampling livestock on the floor of the barn.⁷ Fred Harrison, grandson of early Brownsville area settler, Robert Harrison, described this process saying that his grandfather;

"...cut his first wheat with a cradle. A good man could cut one acre a day. The grain was cut and spread on the barn floor and the kernels tramped out by oxen which were driven round and round on it. The grain was then wined (fanned) to separate the kernels from the chaff and the straw."⁸

Prior to the construction of the R.C. Finley flour mill on the Calapooia in the late 1840's, wheat had to be transported to Oregon City to be

ground. Just as the Finley flour mill was completed in 1848, gold fever hit the Calapooia. Women and children were left to care for the crops and perform the harvest as many of the men in the area left for California. The California gold rush had the effect of changing the economy of the Willamette Valley providing new markets for surplus agricultural products, individual wealth for some, and a medium of exchange. With the limited availability of labor at the time of the gold rush, the settlers of the Calapooia found it easier to raise livestock which was then in demand at the gold fields.

As more settlers entered the valley, claims were taken out on what had been grazing lands on the Willamette Valley floor. The open range was gradually fenced and by the mid-1860's, with the completion of the Santiam Wagon Road over the Cascades, the cattle industry shifted to the east side of the Cascades and wheat, which did well in the Willamette Valley climate, became the basis of the valley's agricultural economy.

Improved transportation facilities and availability of improved harvesting equipment helped to make wheat the staple crop of the Willamette Valley in the latter part of the 19th century. By 1860, the header began to replace the cradle for cutting wheat in the field.⁹ Fred Harrison noted that Robert Harrison, his grandfather, "...and three neighbors, John Nelson, Frank Troutman, and a Mr. Wright, owned one of the first horse-powered threshers in the Brownsville area. This was about 1860, and the machines operated for 20 years."¹⁰

In the late 1840's and very early 1850's, markets for surplus crops were limited. Commodities could either be sold locally or carried in wagons to the Willamette River where they could be drifted down river in flatboats or canoes.¹¹ Road construction, beginning in the early 1850's, and the advent of steamboat traffic on the Willamette River at that time, allowed farm products to be marketed more broadly. Peoria and Harrisburg were local wheat shipping points. According to Albert G. Waggener, "most business in those days was done by credit or barter. Credit was ordinarily settled when wheat was marketed or when cattle was driven to market."¹²

In the late 1860's, wheat, oats, and to a lesser extent, barley, were major crops in Linn County. Oats and barley were used primarily as livestock feed. An increase in wheat production was associated with the construction of the first railroad in Linn County in 1870 and the expansion of the wheat trade to European markets. Between 1870 and 1875, there was a 250 percent increase in wheat production in the county.¹³ A farmer's cooperative for the storage and shipping of wheat was established in Halsey in the early 1870's.¹⁴ With the increase in wheat production, the amount of valley land in farms increased. In the project area, this development was mainly on the open prairies of the Willamette adjacent to the Calapooia. James Worth Morgan recalls when the whole neighborhood in the vicinity of what was later Halsey "was a wheat field".¹⁵

In order to farm this area, the land first had to be drained. Commenting on the drainage techniques of Calapooia farmers on the flat plains of the Willamette, Boag quotes an 1877 correspondent for The Willamette Farmer, who wrote:

"...the country is flat, but the farmers have an easy-going way of ditching...They plow a few furrows in the center of the sloughs, and just by waiting [,] the winter rains do the balance. I saw a few drains made in this way that were seven or eight feet wide and three feet deep, which were used as main drains into which were run one or two furrows at right angles, and this slow draining enhanced the value of the land very much."¹⁶

In his reminiscences, John Creath Bramwell noted that:

"The large watercourse, now called Spoon River, a mile or so east of Halsey, did not even exist when I was a boy. All of that region was a big slough. Spoon River began merely as a farmer's drainage furrow made with his plow. I can remember when that furrow began to wash out to make the present big channel."¹⁷

With the extent of wetlands in this area, it is not surprising that early wheat farmers had difficulties with ducks and geese. Andrew Kirk, son of Riley Kirk, noted that:

"Here about Halsey the geese and ducks were so abundant when I was a boy that they were a great detriment to the farmers. On the old slough which is now drained by Spoon River, the ducks used to come so thick that you could not hear yourself talk for their sound. It was necessary in those days to "twine" all of the grain fields to protect them from ducks and geese. "Twining" a field was done by driving stakes, perhaps twelve or fifteen feet tall, in rows all across the field. These rows of stakes were in squares of "Checks", perhaps one hundred feet, or one hundred and fifty feet apart each way. Across the tops of these stakes twine was stretched. When the birds attempted to alight on the grain fields their wings would strike the stretched twine and it would scare them away. It was very effective for geese, but less so for ducks, for the ducks would fly down in between the lines of twine."¹⁸

With the advent of large scale wheat farming, pioneer farming was replaced by commercial agriculture. Large threshing crews were often used to harvest wheat. Robert Harrison operated one of the first steam threshing outfits in the area in about 1880.¹⁹ This was a Russell machine with an eight-horse portable steam engine.²⁰ The peak year for wheat production in Linn County was 1880.²¹ After that productivity slowly declined. This was largely the result of reduced yields due to lower soil productivity and the introduction of other crops.²² Wheat continued to be grown for years, however, after this decline. In the early 1890's, an improved steam threshing machine was used and large threshing crews and machinery were used to harvest wheat.²³ At the turn-of-the-century, N.H. Bateman had a threshing crew in the Brownsville area.²⁴ The late 1920's saw the close of the era of steam power in this area.²⁵

In addition to wheat, other crops were grown in the project area in the 19th century. William T. Templeton was among the first to grow tobacco in this area.²⁶ In an 1879 letter to his son, Robert Templeton, he refers to the "old tobacco house" on his farm.²⁷ It was noted that this experiment was not that successful because the climate was not suitable for tobacco culture. He sold tobacco to the Brown and Blakely store.²⁸ In 1880, J.H. Stevens was the only farmer in the precinct growing tobacco. He had 1/2 acre of tobacco which produced 60 pounds.²⁹ Also in 1880, Thomas Leonard was the only person in the precinct growing flax. That year, he produced

200 pounds of seed.³⁰ Market gardens were rare in this area in 1880. Only three farmers reported them in 1880: George Vogel, James Callaway, and John Larkin.³¹ D.H. Putnam was one of only a handful of farmers producing quantities of dried beans and peas in the area 1880.³² He also produced 500 bushels of Indian corn.³³ Potatoes were popular with almost all farmers planting at least 1/4 to 1/2 acre and often more.³⁴

There was a period of depression between the years of 1890 and 1900 when farmers of Linn County made slow progress.³⁵ In general, local agriculture began to diversify after the fall of the wheat market and the period between 1900 and 1910 saw an upswing.³⁶ Fruit and vegetable production, poultry production, and dairying became important economic pursuits in Linn County. Field crops also were diversified. A 1904 Brownsville Warehouse advertisement gives market quotations for wheat, oats, hay, flour, mill feed-bran, chopped wheat, chopped oats, shelled corn, oil mill and cracked corn, Timothy grass, vetch, rape, Mammouth red clover, alfalfa, rye seed, and potatoes.³⁷

Sometime before 1920, the Calapooia Co-operative exchange was formed. The cooperative composed of local farmers purchased farm products and sold feed, seed, and "agricultural products of any kind."³⁸

In the 1920's, grass seed was grown commercially for the first time in Linn County. Howard Jenks, who lived near Tangent, became the first commercial shipper of domestic ryegrass.³⁹ This firm opened the eastern market for ryegrass. In the western portion of the project area, large acreages, which had been devoted to wheat in the 19th century, were planted in grass seed as the Willamette Valley became recognized as the sole source of ryegrass seed in the United States. The Brownsville Times of July 1, 1926, noted that, "ryegrass has become quite an extensive production in this section of the Willamette Valley and brings growers many thousands of dollars."⁴⁰ A commercial seed cleaning plant was operated in the Brownsville area by Charles Sterling, of the Brownsville Warehouses.⁴¹ Ryegrass continues to be the most important field crop grown in Linn County with production most intensive on the valley floor. The foothill areas which were intensively farmed in the 19th century have become forested or are used for livestock pasture or "hobby" farms providing a secondary income.

Stock Raising

The first settlers in this area took claims in the foothills where there were clear springs and timber available for building. They existed at the subsistence level living off of whatever food or livestock they had brought along, and on the plentiful game, while "hastily planting such seeds as they possessed and anxiously awaiting the first crop."⁴²

According to Dorissa Zoosman Miller, daughter of Moses Zoosman who settled in the foothill region north of Brownsville in 1853, "When father settled on his claim, he soon cleared and broke a small field...These cultivated fields were the only parts of the claim that were fenced in those days. All the rest of the country was open range."⁴³

It was believed that the open valley floor was too boggy and wet to ever be cultivated. John Creath Bramwell noted that:

"In the early days the tall, rank grass covered all this valley. We would turn out our cattle on the valley and they would immediately be lost in the tall grass, which reached higher than their backs. In looking for cattle, it was impossible to find them by sight. It was necessary to listen for their bells, and when they were lying down to rest during the heat of the day, one might pass within a few feet without finding them."⁴⁴

Albert Waggener noted that, "Often a man would find cows belonging to him years after he thought none remained at large."⁴⁵

"Each settler had a brand or ear mark for his stock and only rounded it up for use or for sale." Because of mild conditions, livestock could forage in the valley year round. In 1850 Wilson Blain wrote, "Here the cattle roam at large, summer and winter, asking nothing from the care of man, and are always in the finest condition. One portion of the country is known as the land of Bashan."⁴⁶

Like cattle, swine were also allowed to range over the valley,

"...feeding on oak mast (acorns) and various roots growing on the prairie-woodland edges of the valley." One of the primary foods for the hogs was the bulb of the camas plant...So abundant was the camas that when in bloom it gave the valley the appearance, according to one Calapooia settler, of "a big blue lake...at least a thousand acres of it."⁴⁷

The gold rushes beginning in the late 1840's brought the early settlers of the Calapooia region into a primitive market economy based on livestock.⁴⁸ Between 1850 and 1852, there was an 86 percent increase in the number of cattle per capita in the Calapooia region.⁴⁹ There were also settlers who had large numbers of hogs, the products of which were also shipped to the mining regions to the south. Boag notes that,

"The 1850 census reveals that in the Calapooia community, twenty-four people owned 247 cattle, with Hugh Fields having seventy-five, Isaac Hutchens with forty, and William Cochran with fifty-seven. There were also 153 milk cows and 122 oxen on the Calapooia. There were thirty people who owned a total of 709 hogs. William R. Kirk alone had a herd of one hundred, Hugh Fields owned sixty, and three others with 50 apiece. Two years later, the 1852 tax assessment rolls show Calapooian residents owning 972 cattle...The number of hogs was listed at 900...Jonathan Keeney alone had a herd of 224 swine."⁵⁰

As more settlers arrived in the area and found the best land taken, they began to take claims on the Willamette valley floor. "To combat unruly livestock, settlers were forced to enclose their land, especially since the provisional and territorial laws left the legal burden on those who wanted to protect their property."⁵¹ In 1856, there was a petition to the Territorial government to "force cattle owners to confine animals running at large and ravaging the petitioners' own "grass claims".⁵²

The gradual fencing of the valley floor was one of the factors responsible for the decline of the livestock industry in the Willamette Valley in the 1860's. In the mid-1860's, the Santiam Wagon Road, which provided a route across the Cascades, was completed to Central Oregon allowing livestock

producers to graze their livestock in the wide open ranges. With the shift of the cattle industry to the east side of the Cascades, the basis of Willamette valley agriculture became wheat farming.

Locally, the foothills northeast and southeast of Brownsville continued to provide open grazing land since its agricultural potential was limited resulting in less settlement in this area. Several large producers operated ranches in the project area. Andrew Warren ran a large herd of cattle on his land in the Warren Creek drainage. One of the largest cattle ranchers was William Cochran. Cochran "ran his cattle on the open range in the hills east of here. They had clear range as far as the town of Sweet Home (16 miles)."⁵³ The Cochran farm continued to be used for cattle raising into the 20th century. In the 1930's, J.T. "Tom" Woody ran cattle on an 1,100 acre ranch in this location including large tracts on the side of Cochran and Lone Pine Buttes.⁵⁴ In the late 19th and early 20th century, the Oregon Land and Livestock Company owned grazing land in T14S, R2W Section 32 in addition to almost 3,000 acres in T15S, R2W and R3W (outside but adjacent to the project area).⁵⁵ This area southeast of Brownsville consisted of steeply dissected, uninhabited foothills. Its primary use was as pasture. In 1901, the Martin Bros. advertised 1,000 acres of good hill pasture five miles southeast of Brownsville for rent in this same general area.⁵⁶

Shortly after settlement, horses replaced oxen as the primary "beast of burden". On many farms, three types of horses were kept: draft horses for farm work, saddle or carriage horses for transportation, and a cow pony for working livestock.⁵⁷ Horses were a vital part of a farm prior to the introduction of the automobile and the tractor. Several people in the area raised horses. In 1870, William Cochran owned 42 horses.⁵⁸ J.S. McFeron raised horses one mile south of Brownsville in 1903.⁵⁹

Many of the early settlers also raised sheep. At first, wool was spun at home and used primarily for family clothing.⁶⁰ In the early 1860's, a woolen mill was established in Brownsville providing a local market for sheep wool and carding mills were established in Crawfordsville and Boston. "The natural environment of Linn County was conducive to sheep raising, and by 1865 it was the leading producer of wool in the Willamette, reporting 132,148 pounds produced."⁶¹ The 1870 U.S. Census

Agricultural Schedules record that large flocks of sheep were owned by John Wilson and Henry Davis, each with 1,000 head, Paul Belts, Ephriam Fox, William Cochran and Thomas Powell.⁶² In 1880, Eliza Spalding Warren had 2,000 sheep, by far the largest flock.⁶³ The Warrens owned a sizable amount of land in the Warren Creek drainage. Others with sizable flocks included Robert Cochran, Harmon Swank, William Washburn, James Wilson and his brother-in-law Thomas Dinnwiddle, and Robert Robe.⁶⁴ Like cattle, sheep grazing eventually moved to the east side of the Cascades. One of the early promoters of the sheep industry in eastern Oregon was Brownsville resident Hugh Fields. The local wool industry declined after the turn-of-the-century.⁶⁵

In 1880, many farmers were raising a variety of livestock, according to the U.S. census agricultural schedule of that year. Much of it apparently was for personal use. Most farmers owned from 1-10 milk cows with no milk being sold to butter or cheese factories. A quantity of butter was made for personal consumption and probably for barter. Only a few of the areas' farmers owned oxen at that time. Although many farmers had some sheep, most had quantities under 100 head. Almost every farmer had swine. J.A. Dunlap had the most with 20. Likewise, poultry was raised for personal egg and meat consumption. Several farmers had more than 50 fowl including Thomas Barrett, George Colbert, William Templeton, Moses Zoosman and William Washburn who had the most with 144 fowl.⁶⁶ In the early 1890's, Charles Miller was a poultry breeder.⁶⁷

Diversification continued into the 20th century. In 1901, there was a Brownsville Goat Raisers Association.⁶⁸ In the early part of this century, mohair from Angora goats was in demand and sold often by a cooperative of many farmers.⁶⁹ After the turn-of-the-century, dairying became important in Linn County with processing plants becoming a part of many communities.⁷⁰ At the turn-of-the-century, the Bruckman and Son creamery was located in Brownsville.⁷¹ A little later, the Brownsville Creamery was operated by Lee and Wingo Eggleston.⁷² In 1931, the Brownsville Creamery shipped "butter to Seattle and Tacoma and other points in Oregon and Washington - 2,000 pounds weekly. Also ice cream for the local market."⁷³ In 1919, the Hazelwood creamery was operating in Brownsville.⁷⁴ That year the creamery made a Christmas shipment of "...88 dressed turkeys...15 live turkeys...15 live geese...1 veal...1 coop

chicken...2 case eggs...28 cows cream..."⁷⁵ Creameries often ran pick-up routes throughout the county to purchase cream and eggs.⁷⁶ Creameries also picked up chickens, geese and ducks.⁷⁷

Turkeys were raised in the area for many years. Leander Kirk noted that "Moody raised a great many turkeys."⁷⁸ (Mr. Moody was an early settler on the Calapooia.) Turkey production picked up in this region in the 1920's with the introduction of incubators and brooders.⁷⁹ By the 1930's, Linn County was one of the two largest turkey shipping centers in the United States.⁸⁰ In 1932, the Turkey Growers Association was formed.⁸¹ As the number of turkeys grew, crews between 12 and 14 people were hired to dress turkeys on the farm.⁸² Later, packing plants were established and live turkeys were shipped from the farm.⁸³ Turkey raising as a local industry began its decline in the late 1930's.⁸⁴ Among the early breeders and raisers of commercial turkeys in the Brownsville area were Charles Fullager, John Sayer, Harold Woodruff, and C.R. Whealdon.⁸⁵ Frank Cochran had a high grade poultry farm in conjunction with his stock farm.⁸⁶

Horticulture

"After a settler had built his cabin and cleared and broken up a few acres for garden and wheat field, his next want was usually an orchard."⁸⁷ For the earliest settlers, fruit was lacking. Settlers depended heavily on wild strawberries and blackberries.⁸⁸ James Worth Morgan noted that even in later years, they "would sometimes go over the ridge to the Mohawk (Lane County) valley for blackberries."⁸⁹ Dorissa Zoosman Miller recalled that:

"In the early days, the wild strawberries grew all over the hillsides - great big berries and so plentiful that they made the ground red. Wild blackberries and strawberries were the only fruit we had to eat then...A few dried apples, shipped around the Horn were the only fruit on the market."⁹⁰

Henry Peterson established what is believed to be the earliest nursery in Linn County on Peterson's Butte (outside of the project area). A variety of plum which he had brought from the east was the only variety available locally to settlers at that time. This plum was propagated and widely

distributed. It was known as the Peterson Plum.⁹¹ Mrs. Dorissa Zoosman Miller went on to say that:

"My father, of course, had Peterson plums in his first orchard and also some other varieties of fruit which he had bought at Peterson's nursery, but some of his first fruit trees he bought from Rev. H.H. Spalding at Brownsville."⁹²

With the first production of fruit locally, fruit was dried and sold to the miners. This included large quantities of Peterson Plums dried and freighted to the mines in southern Oregon.⁹³

The old orchards had a great variety of apple trees no longer grown. James Worth Morgan noted that there were, "the great big Gloria Mundis which looked good but did not have a teaspoon full of juice in all their size. Then there were the Romanites which were chuck full of juice. The Rocksberry Russets-were considered very fine."⁹⁴ Another author provides an idea of some of the other types of fruits grown in the farm orchard:

"Gone are the big family orchards...covering from five to ten acres with rows of Baldwin, Winesap, Russett, Bellflower, Red June, Gloia-munda, and Rambo apples; Winter Neils and Pound pears; Black Republica cherries; and green gage plum thickets intertwined with grape vines."⁹⁵

In the 19th century, most farmers had orchards associated with their farms. Several farmers had substantial orchards, however, including J.W. Swank who had 500 apple trees.⁹⁶ Most of the larger orchards (over 100 trees) were located in the stream valleys, especially the tributary stream valleys, and on farms located at the valley-foothill interface. Census records for 1880 indicate that the largest orchards were owned by William Washburn, Robert Cochran, William Cochran, Harmon Swank, James Washburn, Moses Zoosman, Lawson and Oliver McDowell, O.P. Coshow, H.J.C. Averill, J.A. Dunlap, George Colbert, Eliza Warren (400 trees), W.B. Smith, Robert Gray, C.H. Humphrey, and James Blakely.⁹⁷

In 1880, D.H. Putnam had the only nursery in the precinct.⁹⁸ Because Mr. Putnam owned several parcels of land, the location of this nursery is

uncertain. He also had a five acre peach orchard, the only peach orchard at that time according to the U.S. Census Agricultural Schedules.⁹⁹

In the 20th century there was greater diversity in the types of horticultural products grown in the area. A promotional brochure of the early 20th century noted that:

"The Calapooia Valley is ideally suited for successful fruit growing. At the present time, 250 tons of berries are being produced annually, besides apples, prunes, pears, peaches, and cherries. Considerable attention is also being directed to the growing of walnuts... Brownsville is the home of the Kirk walnut, a seedling of merit that is attracting much attention at this time. The Franquette is also a popular variety. Small plantings of filberts are being made and produce well."¹⁰⁰

In the early 20th century, Brownsville had a Fruit Growers and Produce Association.¹⁰¹

Between 1890 and 1910, sizable acreage throughout the county was devoted to the growing of Italian plums for prunes.¹⁰² Prunes were especially well-suited to the river bottom lands.¹⁰³ In 1903, The Brownsville Times noted that, "The country is full of prunes this season...It is too bad that some way is not devised to dry prunes that are now going to waste in this locality."¹⁰⁴ In 1903, a fruit dryer was operated by the Calapooia Lumber Company of Crawfordsville.¹⁰⁵ By 1910, prunes were the most important crop in Linn County and a prune cannery was located in Albany.¹⁰⁶ Women and children were employed to harvest the prunes.¹⁰⁷ Italian prunes reached their peak in 1929.¹⁰⁸ After that time, the dried fruit market diminished and there was increased competition from California.¹⁰⁹

Berries of all types became an important agricultural product of the Willamette Valley in the early 20th century. By 1930, Oregon led the nation in the production of canned berries.¹¹⁰ In 1907, the Brownsville Preserving and Canning Company was established in Brownsville.¹¹¹ The Brownsville Times of June 7, 1912 announced that the famous Calapooia and Santiam strawberries would be the first fruit to be canned that season.¹¹²

Some gooseberries were also being put up.¹¹³ In 1918, in Lebanon, the barreling of fruit came into practice. Strawberries raspberries, and blackberries were preserved in 450 pound barrels.¹¹⁴ Raspberries were grown in the area and in 1920, the Stratton berry farm had 20 acres.¹¹⁵ With the destruction of the cannery by fire in the winter of 1920-21, no cannery operated in Brownsville and producers had to ship berries to Eugene.¹¹⁶ It was noted that the Brownsville berry crop for 1921 totaled 450,000 pounds.¹¹⁷ Another berry grown in the area was the 'Youngberry' which was similar to a Loganberry.¹¹⁸ George Mitsch was the primary grower locally and promoted this berry with an article in the journal entitled Better Fruit.¹¹⁹ Another well-known local horticulturalist was Everett Earle Stannard who wrote for a number of national publications.¹²⁰

In 1931, the local creamery also purchased products like evergreen blackberries and cascara bark.¹²¹ Cascara bark was purchased by pharmaceutical companies.¹²² It was considered valuable as a stimulant, cathartic, and laxative.¹²³ By the early 1930's, Cascara had become a cultivated crop in the Willamette Valley with tree farms established.¹²⁴ In the Brownsville area, Thomas Miller had an 11 acre cascara tree farm.¹²⁵

Black walnut trees were frequently planted by the early settlers on their claims. In the late 19th century, the English walnut became popular.¹²⁶ Large acreages of walnuts were planted in Linn County in the beginning of this century.¹²⁷ In the Brownsville vicinity, a special walnut, known as the Kirk walnut was developed. This walnut, had low acidity and a softer shell. The parent tree was located on the former Millie Gross property on Kirk avenue in Brownsville.¹²⁸ The Brownsville Times of July 21, 1927, noted that hundreds of Kirk Walnut trees were planted in this area as well as in other parts of the country.¹²⁹ Glen McFarland had a Kirk Walnut nursery where he sold seedlings of this tree. The nursery was located on the property which had the parent tree. This nursery was sold to Charles Holloway in 1927.¹³⁰

In the early 20th century, "apple fever" hit Linn and Benton Counties. The ultimate goal was to develop this portion of the Willamette Valley to

the apple center of the world. Orchards and packing sheds sprang up in all areas. Orchard tracts were also platted. In the project area, The Brownsville Times noted that:

"The apple buyer who has been buying and shipping apples in this vicinity...ran up against it hard near Halsey, when a number of farmers whose apples he had contracted refused to let him have them when they discovered that they were to be packed and shipped in boxes labeled 'Hood River apples'."¹³¹

No "apple tracts" were platted in the project area but in 1912, A.P. Talent platted a subdivision of 24 tracts for diversified farming.¹³² This subdivision is located in T13S, R3E, Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34.

One of the first to grow hops on a large scale in Linn County was the Templeton family whose claim was located three miles east of Brownsville on the south side of the river.¹³³ The Templetons reportedly got their first hops from Ezra Meeker in Puyallup, Washington.¹³⁴ (In 1870, the year that Templeton was reported to have begun hop production, only one hop grower was listed in the census records for the Brownsville precinct. This was Joseph Summerville who grew 10 acres of hops that year.) Templeton, dissatisfied with the Chinese laborers he first hired to harvest hops, was the first to bring Indians from the Warm Springs reservation over the mountains to pick hops.¹³⁵ An early photograph of the Templeton hop yard indicates that hops were grown on tall poles without wire strung between the poles. This was known as a "pole" yard.¹³⁶

Hop growing was primarily centered in the lowlands of the Calapooia River Valley, especially on tracts adjacent to the river near Brownsville. The Chinese were heavily involved in hop production in this region. The Oregonian of September 3, 1886 announced that:

"Hop picking is in full blast now, and good progress is being made in all hop yards now except Kirk's and White's. They broke down some part of the engine that drives the fan, and have to wait for repairs

from Portland. They expect to commence drying again today. Most of the pickers are Chinamen. The crop will be of good quality but rather light."¹³⁷

Hugh Fields also had a large hop yard on his farm. In 1889, he leased this hop yard for a number of years to Sam Wah and Chy Kim.¹³⁸ In the 1890's, hops could be sold to the Albany Brewing and Bottling Company.¹³⁹ In the early 20th century, hop fields were operated by Joseph Hume, Milligan and Moyer, Abe Bennett, R.R. Templeton, and Mr. Augustus Hausman whose 23 acre yard was located near the Brownsville depot. Another yard was the Jack and McHargue yard run by Frances M. Jack and George McHargue and the Cushman yard operated by Barney M. Cushman in the early years of the 20th century. Hops were purchased locally by Cooley, Smith and Company.¹⁴⁰ An undated photograph notes that Brownsville had four hop yards on the north side of the river. One of these was the Gentry yard run by Wong Sing and Wong Sam. Other Chinese who operated hop yards were Suey Gee, who leased the Templeton yard, and Joe Chinaman. A 1902 newspaper notes that there were 12 yards around Brownsville.

By 1910, Oregon led all other states in the production of hops.¹⁴² In 1916, when Oregon's prohibition law took effect, growers in the state cut production believing the industry was doomed.¹⁴³ Despite prohibition, the industry made a steady comeback between 1918 and 1932 supporting export and speciality markets.¹⁴⁴ The repeal of prohibition in 1933, resulted in a renewal of the hop industry in Oregon.¹⁴⁵ In 1935, Oregon saw a record number of acres planted in hops.¹⁴⁶ By the 1940's, the industry was again in decline, a result of downey mildew disease, the cost of mechanization deemed necessary because of the lack of a labor pool, and brewing practices at that time which called for fewer hops to be used in the production of beer.¹⁴⁷

Mention should also be made of the early pioneer flowers. Mrs. Wilson Blain was the first to plant sweetbriar rose in the Union Point community. By the 1930's, it had spread "all over the dry hillsides and is a nuisance in pastures and fields."¹⁴⁸ The Courtney Family, presumably Agnes Courtney, "went about the cabin planting garden flowers and currents..."¹⁴⁹

**Prominent Individuals
Associated with the Theme of Agriculture**

William Cochran: Settled on claim north of Brownsville in the late 1840's. Brought with him 50 head of Spanish cattle. Became a prominent stock raiser with over 2,000 acres of land. Partner in stock business was John Vance. In addition to large herds of cattle, William Cochran had a large number of sheep and also raised horses.

James Blakely: Early settler who became a prominent stock raiser. Involved in the California cattle trade.

Eliza Spalding Warren: Owned one of the largest flocks of sheep in the area (over 2000 sheep).

James McHargue: Early cattle raiser who shipped and marketed cattle in the valley, east of the Cascades, and in California. Also one of the organizers of the Brownsville flour mill in the 1850's.

Hugh Fields: Early cattle rancher who had one of the largest herds of cattle on the Calapooia in 1850. Involved in the establishment of the Brownsville Woolen Mill and later was closely associated with the establishment of the sheep raising industry in eastern Oregon where he earned the title of "Sheep King". Owned 15,000 sheep at one time. In 1889 he was one of the organizers of the Eagle Woolen Mill successor to the Brownsville mill.

Isaac Courtney: Given credit as the first settler to plant wheat in Linn County in 1846.

R.C. Finley: Built and operated a grist mill on the Calapooia, the first flour mill south of Oregon City. Also built a flour mill at Boston (nearby but outside of the project area).

Templeton Family: First to grow hops in the Calapooia River Valley and first to employ Indians from the Warm Springs Reservation to harvest hops. The Templeton's were also large land owners in this area owning 1,800 acres in a single block.

D.H. Putnam: Owner of perhaps the only early nursery in the project area.

H.H. Spalding: Spalding bought trees with him to the Calapooia and apparently sold them to the settlers thus being one of only a very small number of suppliers of trees in this entire region.

Kirk: Developed a walnut known as the Kirk walnut known for being a low acid, thin-shelled variety. This type of Walnut tree was planted throughout the region and elsewhere.

N.G. Rice: Prominent farmer. "Gray" Rice, settler of 1849, returned to the Brownsville area in the 1880's after spending many years in Walla Walla County Washington. He eventually owned 1,800 acres in this area, making him one of the largest landowners in the region.

Everett Earle Stannard: Horticulturalist who wrote for several national publications including Western Homes and Gardens.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Inventories

Previously inventoried resources associated with the theme of agriculture include the Stockdale log barn (ca. 1940), the Hugh L. Brown Barn, and the Robert Cochran farmstead which includes a farmhouse, two barns and a milkhouse or cooler.

Resource Types

- Ag outbldg/multi-purpose barn
- Ag outbldg/stock barn/horse and/or cow
- Ag outbldg/dairy barn
- Ag outbldg/sheep shed
- Ag outbldg/machine shed
- Ag outbldg/smokehouse
- Ag outbldg/hop kiln
- Ag outbldg/fruit dryer

- Ag outbldg/granary
- Ag outbldg/tobacco house
- Ag outbldg/pig pen or hog house
- Ag outbldg/chicken coop
- Ag outbldg/incubator house
- Ag outbldg/brooder house
- Ag outbldg/turkey pens
- Ag outbldg/packing shed
- Ag outbldg/milkhouse or milking parlour
- Ag outbldg/shop/blacksmith
- Ag outbldg/straw shed
- Ag outbldg/hatchery
- fence
- corral
- water trough
- pasture--Agricultural field
- barn yard or lane
- nursery
- ditch/drainage
- sheep dip tank
- farmstead site/historical-archaeological
- farmhouse (see domestic architecture for discussion of farmhouses and house group outbuildings)
- grain elevator
- warehouse/grain storage
- warehouse/grass seed storage
- seed cleaning plant/grass
- silo
- bunkhouse for hired hands
- well
- spring
- resevoir
- natural feature/trees (windbreak)
- orchard

Discussion

The list of resource types associated with the theme of agriculture is extensive. Each farmstead consisted of a farmhouse, at least one but often several barns, and a number of specialized outbuildings. Around the farmhouse were located trees, yards, and gardens and a little further, orchards; picket and board fences; a water supply in the form of a well or a spring; and a number of outbuildings related to the domestic activities. The barn group, as opposed to the house group, had little in the way of plantings. The major components of the barn group were barnyards and driveways; board and rail fences; and secondary support buildings related to agricultural activities.¹⁵⁰

The arrangement of the farmstead and its major components, the house group and the barn group, was often one of three configurations: the parallel farm group in which the house and barn are parallel to the road; the perpendicular farm group in which the barn is behind the house; and a farm group in which the house and barn group are separated by a road.¹⁵¹ This last type often resulted when the driveway of a parallel farm group became a county road.¹⁵² This configuration was also used for inns.¹⁵³ Some of the characteristics shared by these layouts include the placement of the farm on a rise or a house and barn on two different elevated "bumps"; an east or north orientation for the house (based on Willamette Valley climactic conditions); and barn group located from 150 to 200 feet from the house group with the orientation of the barn group toward the house not the road.¹⁵⁴

The number of potential outbuildings associated with a farmstead precludes describing characteristics of each type of outbuilding other than in a most general way. For instance, smokehouses were generally small buildings with high walls in proportion to their size; coolers would often have sawdust in the walls; buildings for storing grain would often have crib construction; and milkhouses were often constructed of stone or brick.

Barns, because of their scale, are the most prominent outbuildings on the rural Linn County landscape. Barn characteristics are important

indicators of the changing agricultural practices in the Willamette Valley.

Andrew Kirk, son of Riley Kirk, noted that his father's first home on the Calapooia was "made merely by building a rail pen beneath a wide-spreading white fir tree...Such a shelter was common in those days. Besides using fir trees for houses, it was still more common to use them for barns."¹⁵⁵ With the first acreage cleared and planted came the need for a structure to store crops.¹⁵⁶ Log barns were built prior to the availability of sawn lumber. Some farmers also built granaries. Leander Kirk noted that his father "had an old log granary near his house."¹⁵⁷ Beyond the granary he had a field of oats."¹⁵⁸ Log barns, which were considered temporary, could be constructed of round or hewn logs.

Generally a hewn frame "permanent" barn preceded the construction of a good house by several years indicating the importance of a good barn to the settlers.¹⁵⁹ The earliest that a hewn barn could be expected on a claim was two to three years after the claim was taken.¹⁶⁰ In the 1850's several types of hewn frame barns were built. One type was the "end-opening" barn.¹⁶¹ This type of barn, which was predominantly a stock feeding barn, was often located in a pasture some distance from the house.¹⁶² Characteristics include wagon entrance on the gable end; a rectangular central hewn frame volume with a wood floor and large doors on one side; and lean-tos of hewn frame construction on three sides which were partly enclosed with vertical boards and had earth flooring with feeding racks for loose stock.¹⁶³ Philip Dole notes that the ... "lean-tos are an integral and original part of the construction, the very low pitched roof has an extensive spread and seems to "nearly touch" the ground."¹⁶⁴

Another type of early hewn frame barn was the side-opening barn.¹⁶⁵ The Hugh Leeper Brown barn (ca. 1849), a National Register property within the project area, is of this type. This type of barn was generally larger and was also used for threshing.¹⁶⁶ Like the end-opening barn, this barn had a low profile and a number of lean-tos surrounding the main volume.¹⁶⁷ Large wagon doors were located opposite of each other on the long sides of the barn.¹⁶⁸ The vertical siding usually consisted of hand-sawn lumber of random widths up to 24 inches.¹⁶⁹ Without windows, gaps between the siding

provided the light and ventilation.¹⁷⁰ Most of the interior area was open to the ridge except above the central area where there was a loft.¹⁷¹ Often there would be a hay mow on one side of the drive and a threshing floor on the other side.¹⁷² Philip Dole notes that the barn's organization;

"...was based on long established functional principles established before the development of agricultural machinery...The doors at either end of the drive allowed a team to enter, unload and pass straight on through the barn. Unthreshed wheat was stacked in the loft over the threshing floor...The farmer's wife might be stationed in the center of the threshing floor to keep the horses turning in a circle around her over the wheat which had been thrown down from the loft above...The two opposite wagon doors provided a through draft for winnowing."¹⁷³

Since the threshing floor required an open space, a long span truss was required.¹⁷⁴ Along the far end were grain bins and perhaps some animal pens.¹⁷⁵ Grain bins were generally small at that time reflecting the fact that wheat had not yet become a specialty crop.¹⁷⁶ Barn footings consisted of either large boulders or sections of cedar or oak trees.¹⁷⁷

The building process took place generally on the farm and often a builder was hired for the job.¹⁷⁸ Philip Dole describes the sequence of events in the construction of a hewn-frame barn:

"The barn raising marked the middle stage in the building process. The builder's work had gone on for six months or more previously...First the felling of timber, then the hewing and hauling members of the frame. There were also siding, flooring, roof sheathing, and shingles and shakes to make or obtain as well as hardware. Following the raising, finishing off the building took another six months. No paint or stain was used."¹⁷⁹

Barns of the 1860's were similar to their 1850's counterparts. New construction during this period was often the consequence of a pioneer's death or a marriage and a subdivision of the claim.¹⁸⁰ The scale of farm operations was also expanding and this is reflected in the new

construction.¹⁸¹ Barn frames continued to be constructed of hewn members but standardized materials provided the siding.¹⁸² Roof pitch of the barn became steeper. Sliding roller doors were also available in the 1860's.¹⁸⁴ There was also more emphasis on organization for storage and the use of gravity for feeding.¹⁸⁵ During this period double-deck barns were promoted.¹⁸⁶ These barns, built against a hillside, had several levels: one for threshing, perhaps a second for grain storage and a lower level for stock.¹⁸⁷ Gravity provided for easy movement of hay and grain from the upper levels to the stock below.

From the 1860's, farming operations were affected by a number of inventions. Among these inventions were baled hay, the hay fork lift, and a threshing process which bagged grain in the field.¹⁸⁸ After 1870, architectural finish, such as shiplap siding on the main facade, glazed windows, and boxed-in eaves became more common on barns.¹⁸⁹ By 1870, harvesting grain with a cradle was a process of a by-gone era. Wheat was now a specialty crop with vast acreages replacing the 20 acre cultivated field of wheat. In the 1870's, portable horse-powered threshers were used in the fields and by 1880 steam powered threshers were in general use.¹⁹⁰ Barns became more specialized in this period. It also became necessary to shelter equipment.

The "Western Barn", which was most popular between the years of 1890 and 1910, but built earlier, had a high ridge and high eaves.¹⁹¹ Lean-tos, if used, were incorporated under a continuous roof.¹⁹² The biggest change was on the barn's interior which was divided into two floors.¹⁹³ The low-ceilinged ground floor had stalls for horses and stanchions for cows.¹⁹⁴ (The concept of stall feeding had been recently introduced.) The large, high hay mow on the upper floor, was reached by ladder or stair.¹⁹⁵ The hay fork lift demanded that the space beneath the ridge be unimpaired so cross girts were often lowered thereby raising the ridge.¹⁹⁶ Some barns were designed so that the hay was unloaded on the outside of the barn while others were designed to unload hay on the barn's interior.¹⁹⁷ For barns with exterior unloading, a hood or cantilevered roof sheltered both the track and the hay door below it.¹⁹⁸ In cases where hay was unloaded on the inside of a barn, a high, open central wagon drive was required. Structural members were generally milled and toe-nailed.²⁰⁰ The hewn frame was generally a thing of the past.

Round or octagonal barns enjoyed a brief period of popularity at the turn-of-the-century. The arrangement of these barns provided an economical means of feeding stock.²⁰¹

The gambrel roof barn, often in the form of a dairy barn, developed in the 1890's.²⁰² Its use was promoted by state agricultural colleges which built very large examples often with long, low, one-storied cow sheds attached to them.²⁰³ "The notion of stock feeding on two sides of a central aisle would be a characteristic inclusion."²⁰⁴ In addition to the hay fork lift, new equipment and elements were added such as manure carriers, self operating drinking bowls for stock, a milk room and electrical services.²⁰⁵ "One or two circular silos, often of wood, sometimes of red tile, added new forms to the barn exterior."²⁰⁶ The most significant change in barn construction in the 20th century was the use of a plank construction system.²⁰⁷ The plank frame provided for the open centers under the ridge for hay and grain elevating machinery.²⁰⁸ Philip Dole notes that the plank system was,

"...a forerunner of the assembly used today-prefabricated roofs, for example. As the plank frame required less material and less skill to assemble, it was cheaper. The pieces were 2'x 8''s or smaller, used in fairly short lengths. A quantity of nails was required. The pieces were assembled in multiples, two parallel pieces separated by spacers. The use of spacers facilitated in making interlocking connections and intersecting joints. It was easy to change direction...which encouraged the gambrel form and a host of related curved roofs."²⁰⁹

These other shapes included flared gambrels and convex curved profiles resembling Moorish arches.²¹⁰ Often the gambrel roof spread to other buildings on the farm.²¹¹ J.P. Milde was a barn builder who constructed many 20th century barns in this area.²¹²

Specialty crops, such as hops, required specialized drying structures known as hop barns, hop driers or hop kilns.²¹³ Although hop driers can exhibit striking individuality, generally, they are tall in proportion to their width and have one or more ventilator structures on their roofs.²¹⁴

These ventilation structures are similar to cupolas but are taller.²¹⁵ Philip Dole indicates that three styles were prevalent: a tall towered square plan with steep hipped roof; a hip roofed rectangular shaped building; and a gable roofed rectangular structure.²¹⁶ Sometimes hop barns were built in complexes with a number of adjoining structures.²¹⁷ In a hop drier the ground floor was equipped with a kiln or heating apparatus. A slatted floor allowed the heat to reach the second floor where the hops were loaded from a second floor door and laid out for drying.²¹⁸

Very early, settlers were forced to fence their land to combat unruly livestock. The provisional government even wrote into law specifications for building fences: "strong worm fence...locked at each joint, five feet in height,...or a hedge two feet high, or a sod fence three feet high, with a ditch on each side three feet wide, and three feet deep, or a stone fence four feet high..."²¹⁹ Philip Dole notes that the three types of fencing shown in the lithographs of the Marion and Linn County historical atlas would be accurate; "...picket fence around at least the front garden of the house; board fences for the barnyard and for areas near the house; and miles of Virginia rail fencing zigzagging along pastures, meadows and far into the distance..."²²⁰ A lithograph of the M.A.E. Swank House, which was located in the project area shows a board fence around the house and yards (Figure 1).²²¹ Albert G. Waggener noted that "Rail fences were the only kind known in those days and many miles stretched over the valley and foothills..."²²²

Although developed earlier, wire fencing did not have much of an impact in Oregon until the turn-of-the-century when its popularity gradually grew.²²³

Distribution of Resources

It is very unlikely that any early log outbuildings have survived in the project area. Since it is possible that siding could have been placed over a log structure, outbuildings will be examined closely. Claimants of the 1840's never ventured far from the foothills or the river. Therefore, early log outbuildings would probably be limited to these areas. Between the years of 1851 and 1855, settlers began claiming land on the open

prairie and in the higher foothills. By then, sawmills were providing sawn lumber although the need for a temporary barn probably remained.

Between 1860 and 1875, new building was often the result of a pioneer's death, a marriage, or the subdivision of a claim. By this time the land in the project area along the Calapooia River, in the valley and at the valley-foothill interface were fully "settled". In the more rugged foothills northeast and southeast of Brownsville, farmsteads were limited to tributary stream valleys. Even in the 20th century, population in this area is very sparse.

Methodology

In order to survey farmsteads and farm related outbuildings, a reconnaissance level survey will be accomplished on a section by section basis using 1950 U.S.G.S. maps, aerial photographs and the overlay maps assembled for this project.

For the purposes of classifying farmstead and farm outbuildings, the following classification will be used: (1) Basic Farm - house, the barn and maybe one other outbuilding; (2) Multi-Unit Farm - basic farm with the addition of other outbuildings(s); (3) Isolated Agricultural Buildings - only one remnant farm building from the original ensemble, such as a single barn or residence. The resource may be associated with more recent buildings but it is the only resource over 50 years old; (4) Remnant Farm - a grouping of outbuildings but no associated farmhouse, or a farmhouse and one or more small farm group outbuildings but no barn.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

A total of 173 resources associated with the context of agriculture were located during the course of the reconnaissance. Combined with the three resources known from previous surveys, there are a total of 176 resources associated with this context. This does not include the 84 farmhouses and the 70 associated "house group" outbuildings (see the Domestic Architecture context for a discussion of these farmstead buildings). Early barns, Western and pole barns, and gambrel-roofed barns,

potentially significant outbuildings, and potentially significant farmsteads are listed in Tables 1a-1e. Table 2 enumerates the types of resources associated with agriculture, and Table 3 gives the number of barns recorded by type. Forty-four isolated agricultural resources, 33 multiple unit farmsteads, 17 basic farmsteads, and 21 remnant farmsteads were recorded.

In general, outbuildings dating to the 19th century are very rare. Barns represent the largest type of 19th century outbuilding surviving with less than 20 examples. Of that number, only 5 or 6 have hewn frames. Many barns dating to both the 19th and 20th century are in very poor physical condition. Changing agricultural practices and the sale of farms resulting in the creation of larger parcels have led to the destruction of barns. Over 61 of the larger barns in T14S, R2W have been destroyed since 1950! Only 25 or so remain in that same area today. Maintenance of barns is often deferred unless the barn is being used. Once the barn's condition deteriorates, it is often too costly to make repairs. The metal agricultural building is rapidly taking the place of the wooden barn on the landscape.

One type of barn that was very common was the smaller stock barn. This type of barn was smaller than the "Western Barn" and its function was usually limited to sheltering and feeding stock, primarily cows and horses. These barns are end opening, with a center aisle that was open for storing loose hay. These barns do not have a loft over the center area but often have a hay fork lift hay into the center aisle. Livestock are located on both sides of the center aisle, often in lean-tos. A small loft is often located above the livestock. These barns were found in most areas but were not as common on the valley floor where larger barns appeared most frequently.

Other farm group outbuildings are also disappearing. Examples of smaller 19th century outbuildings such as granaries, smokehouses, equipment sheds, and small stock barns are very rare. Even 20th century outbuildings of this type are becoming rare. The hog barn, chicken coop, and smokehouse are no longer needed when farmers are in commuting distance of supermarkets. Although most types of predicted agricultural resources were located, for many resources, only one example was found.

Several types of predicted resources were not found. No hop kilns remained standing in this area that was once a center of hop production in the Willamette Valley. (The hop kiln associated with the Wigle farm is located within the Brownsville city limits.) Unexpected were the hops picker's quarters and hops pickers residence located in the course of the survey. The hops pickers quarters consist of a long, low building with a shed roof and a four "quarters" divided by walls. A hop barn was previously located nearby. The only fruit dryer located was a small shed with trays which was used to dry fruit primarily for personal consumption. The furnace casing of another fruit dryer was located but the structure was gone. The function of approximately 13 agricultural outbuildings was not determined either because we could not get a close look at the buildings or the property owner did not know the buildings functions. Another difficulty in assigning function to an outbuilding was the fact that outbuildings were often recycled. Hog barns become gas storage sheds, granaries become chicken coops.

Many of the older prune and walnut orchards in the area were destroyed by the Columbus Day storm in 1962. Numerous older fruit trees were observed in association with long time or early settlement sites. No older fences were located and in general, farmstead fences are limited to board fences in the barnyard area. Fences were hardly ever observed in front of farmhouses in contrast to the fences in front of almost every farmhouse in the 1878 William's atlas.

There were several farmsteads which still retained a range of outbuildings. The best example is the Splawn Farm. The Splawn farm consists of a 1915 farmhouse, a woodshed, auto garage, privy, and a range of outbuildings dating from 1915 through the depression era. Farm group outbuildings include a very intact barn, a smokehouse, a blacksmith shop with forge still intact, an incubator house, several chicken coops, a brooder house, a fruit dryer, machine shed and hog scalding vat. With the exception of the Splawn farm and perhaps a few others, the self-sustaining farmstead of the 19th and early 20th century has disappeared.

RESOURCE EVALUATION

Each of the different types of outbuildings were evaluated as a group. The exterior integrity of a barn was at times less important in the evaluation than the interior frame and configuration (i.e. a hand hewn barn with metal siding would still be considered potentially significant.) For most of resource types, a best example was selected. This decision was made on the basis of integrity and how well it exhibited the characteristics of the resource type. The selection of other potentially significant examples depended largely on the integrity of the other resources in that group and the resource type being evaluated. For instance, because of their rarity, many of the 19th century barns were evaluated as significant. Association with an important person or development was also taken into consideration.

The significance of outbuildings was enhanced by their association with the larger farmstead. For this reason, these buildings were considered potentially significant in their own right only if they could maintain their significance even with the loss of the farmhouse and other associated buildings. Statewide inventory forms which will be completed for potentially significant barns, will address all of the other buildings on the farmstead. Farmsteads with the best selection of farm group outbuildings were selected as potentially significant.

Several farm group outbuildings were determined to be potentially significant in their own right. These include hop pickers quarters, several smaller stock barns, including a 20th century barn of log construction, and a possible granary which was one of the few 19th century smaller outbuildings recorded. One agricultural field was also recorded as potentially significant. This plot was among the first to be plowed in Linn County.

TABLE 1a

Resources Representing the Context of Agriculture

Early Barns

Recorded during current project.

- 51 **Watkins barn? (hand-hewn/type uncertain)**
- 66 **Montgomery barn (sawn frame/end opening)**
- 179 Enos Barn (sawn frame/siding-opening)
- 199 **Rice barn (hewn-frame/type uncertain)***
- 247 **Overton barn (hand-hewn frame/end-opening)**
- 257 **Pearl barn (hand-hewn frame/side-opening)**
- 297 Waggener barn (sawn and hewn framing members/side-opening)

Previously inventoried.

SHPO 306 Cochran barn

National Register.

Hugh L. Brown barn (best example)

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant and one or more of the treatment strategies needs to be applied.

* Indicates resource has important cultural associations although integrity threshold may not be met.

TABLE 1b

Resources Representing the Context of Agriculture

Western Barns and Pole Barns

Recorded during current project.

56	Unknown
73	Unknown
75	Goulard or Samuelson barn
90	Unknown
94	Unknown
110	Unknown
128	Splawn barn (pole barn)
140	Unknown
142	Unknown
146	Unknown
162	Unknown
202	Weber barn?
208	Wilson barn?
230	Unknown
258	Schick barn (pole barn)
268	Unknown
281	Waggener barn
293	Fullagher barn (exterior siding removed but excellent example of pole barn)
301	Unknown
347	Chastain barn
351	Unknown (pole barn)

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant and one or more of the treatment strategies needs to be applied.

TABLE 1c

Resources Representing the Context of Agriculture

Large Gambrel-Roofed Barns

Recorded during current project.

52	George Rice barn
62	Stratton or Mitsch barn
80	Unknown
115	Unknown
124	G.P. Milde Barn (best example)
149	Bierly barn
150	Bierly barn
205	Unknown
212	Unknown
223	Carey barn
239	Bierly barn
263	Unknown
308	Unknown

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant and one or more of the treatment strategies needs to be applied.

TABLE 1d

Resources Representing the Context of Agriculture

(Significant or potentially significant individual "farm group" outbuildings or other resources representing the theme of agriculture.)*

Recorded during current project.

22	Agricultural field (McHargue)
46	Hops picker's quarters
156	Smokehouse
339	Gray granary
287, 288	Oak Grove Ranch stock barn and milking parlour

Recorded during previous projects.

SHPO 669 Stockdale log barn

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant and one or more of the treatment strategies needs to be applied.

*Numerous other outbuildings are considered significant or potentially significant as part of farmsteads (see Table 1e).

TABLE 1e

Resources Representing the Context of Agriculture
(Significant or Potentially Significant Farmsteads
and House-Barn Combinations)

Recorded during current project.

61-62	Stratton house and barn*
75-78	Samuelson or Goulard farmstead (includes SHPO 323 "Spalding" house)
118-124	G.P. Milde farmstead
125-139	Splawn farmstead (best example)
141-142	Unknown house and barn
175-182	Enos farmstead #1
183-188	Enos farmstead #2
197-199	Rice farmstead*
200-203	Weber farmstead?
210-214	Unknown (includes SHPO 318, Thomas Cooper House)
231-237	Stubbs farmstead
251-256, 286	Schick farmstead

Recorded during previous project.

SHPO 305-308 Cochran farmstead

Bold indicates resource is significant or potentially significant and one or a number of the treatment strategies should be applied.

*Indicates cultural association with important individual.

TABLE 2

Types of Resources Associated with Agriculture

Farm group outbuildings.

Barns =	79
Machine sheds =	13
Gas storage sheds =	3
Sheds (storage function) =	2
Blacksmith shops =	2
Buildings related to chicken raising =	27
Turkey barn =	1
Turkey pens =	1
Milkhouses or milking parlour =	3
Dairy processing plant =	1
Granaries =	7
Smokehouses =	6
(Several of these were not confirmed as being smokehouses)	
Pump =	1
Windmill =	1
Trough =	1
Spring reservoir =	1
Sheep sheds =	1
Hog barn =	6
Hog scalding vat =	1
Hog scalding building =	1
Slaughter house =	1
Fruit dryer =	1
(one also furnace from dryer)	
Hop worker's residence or quarters =	2
Silos =	1
Unknown	13

TABLE 3

Enumeration of Barns by Type

Early barns (generally pre-1880) =	9*
Western barns (includes large pole barns) =	20
Gambrel roofed barns =	15
Stock barns =	33
Log barn =	1
Small multiple purpose barns =	1

* With the exception of one barn for which the date is uncertain, all early barns are located in the Calapooia River Valley or the Valley-foothill interface areas.

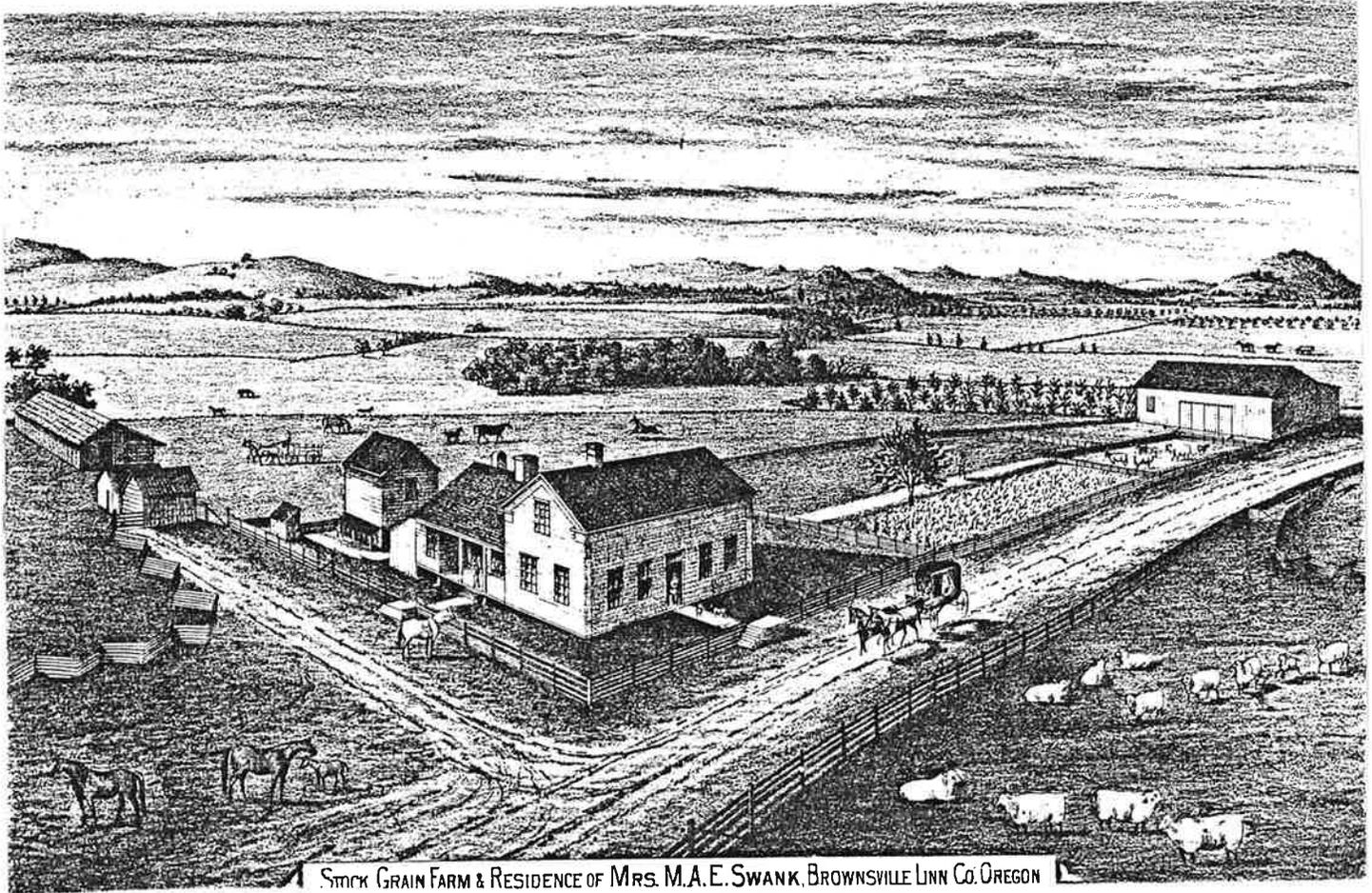


FIGURE 1: Mrs. M.A.E. Swank Farmstead with
1850's Classical Revival style
from Williams, Illustrated Historical Atlas Map,
Marion and Linn Counties

THEME: INDUSTRY / MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING

SCOPE: 1847-1940

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Many of the earliest industrial developments in Linn County occurred in the Calapooia River drainage. The Calapooia River, and its tributaries, provided water power for the operation of gristmills, sawmills, planing mills, sash and door factories, a woolen mill, and a carding mill among other industries. The upper Calapooia was also the location of early, large-scale timber operations with logging companies using the power of the Calapooia to float logs to downstream mills for processing.

Grist Mills

With the harvest of the first crop of wheat grown on a claim, a trip to a grist mill was necessary to grind the wheat into flour for home use. The closest flour mill to the Calapooia region was located in Oregon City, a round trip journey of six days. In 1847-48, the first mill south of Oregon was built on the Calapooia River. The mill was built by R.C. Finley and others upon the urging of local settlers. The site selected, at the falls of the Calapooia just to the west of the current Crawfordsville location, was not owned by Finley. The land had previously been claimed by a relative of the Courtney family who had not built any improvements on the claim. Finley built a cabin on the property and his "ownership" rights were upheld by many on the Calapooia who wished to see the water power used for a grist mill.¹

The actual construction of the mill was undertaken by a number of people including James McHargue.² This first mill was not very large -- not over 12 to 15 feet square.³ Supposedly, news of gold discovered in California hit the Calapooia just as the mill was being completed. According to R.C. Finley's daughter, Eliza Finley Brandon, on the day her father completed the mill, he "...ground wheat ...in the forenoon, and in the afternoon he mounted a horse and rode away to the mines."⁴

When Finley returned, he profited indirectly from the gold rush. Eliza Finley Brandon, reminisced that;

"...there were so many rough miners coming to the mill to get their wheat ground. The miners would come with their wheat from many miles away and were often compelled to remain overnight. My father kept them and fed them at the mill, but mother would not allow them to stay at the house and associate with her 'house full of girls'."⁵

In addition, a partner, John Crawford, freighted flour from the mill directly to California.⁶ In the 1850's, another mill building was erected on this site. (Figure 1) This was a larger mill, located slightly up river from the older mill and not as far out on the rocks in the stream channel.⁷ The first mill building was used as a hog pen until it was washed away in the flood of 1861-62.⁸ Cyrus Vawter, R.C. Finley's son-in-law, served as miller.⁹ Many of the grist mills in Linn County were "custom mills". Customers would bring their own grain to be ground and paid for the grinding with part of the wheat.¹⁰

In 1858, Richard Finley entered into a partnership with Philemon V. Crawford and Alex Brandon for the construction of a mill in the town of Boston.¹¹ (Boston was located approximately seven miles northwest of Brownsville, also on the Calapooia River. The Boston Mill, a National Register property, is located outside of the project area.) This may have been in response to the proposed construction of a flour mill on the north side of the Calapooia River in what was later Brownsville.

The Finley mill on the Calapooia was sold to L.H. White and Co. in 1880.¹² After several partnership transfers, the mill was sold to the Oxford Milling Co. in 1890.¹³ In 1897, the Oxford Milling Co. transferred the title of ownership to John McKercher.¹⁴ The mill was known as the McKercher mill in the 20th century. The mill building collapsed in the 1940's when during a period of high water, floating logs on the Calapooia crashed into the mill footings.¹⁵

Another early grist mill was built by the Brownsville Milling Co. This grist mill was built in 1859 or thereabouts on the north side of the Calapooia on a portion of the Henry Harmon Spalding Donation Land Claim. James Blakely and James and William McHargue purchased 72 acres of land to build this mill from Spalding in 1859 for \$50.00.¹⁶ By 1863, Andrew Warren and A.S. Bassett were co-partners in the Brownsville Milling Co.¹⁷

The land which they purchased eventually became the site of the communities of North Brownsville and Amelia. To power the gristmill, a mill race, known as the "Brownsville Ditch", was excavated from the Calapooia, near the mouth of Warren Creek east of Brownsville, to the mill site. This grist mill in Brownsville operated for many years although ownership changed many times. In 1877, A.A. McCully, who then owned the mill, transferred his title to the mill to William McCully and J.M. Waters and the firm was known as McCully and Waters.¹⁸ The following year, McCully's interest was sold to Walter Morelock.¹⁹ In 1903, the Brownsville Flouring Mills were sold to N.J. Crume of Shedd and John Thompson of Boston.²⁰ This mill was torn down in the 1930's.²¹

Only one reference was found to the following flour mills. Rather unexpected was a reference in the 1860 census records to the flour mill of Rev. John McKinney.²² The 1870 Industrial Schedule for the U.S. Census enumerates Moore Smith and Co. who had a water power flouring mill.²³

Sawmills

The Calapooia was the center of the early sawmill industry in Linn County. Numerous sawmills were located on the Calapooia River and its tributaries. Before the use of water power, pit saws could have provided sawn lumber locally. The earliest "power" sawmill in Linn County may have been the Templeton sawmill on the Calapooia River in T14S, R2W, Section 12.²⁴ The Templeton mill was built by James R. Templeton in ca. 1850 on his Donation Land Claim.²⁵ It was described as an old-fashioned upright saw run by water power.²⁶

There are several references to an earlier sawmill operated by Isaac Courtney.²⁷ While nothing has been located in the course of the current research to verify this, James McHargue had one-half interest in a sawmill located on the Agnes Courtney Donation Land Claim in 1858.²⁸ McHargue sold his interest in this mill to Lewis McAllister that year.²⁹ McAlister sold his interest in the mill to the Sloan brothers in 1865.³⁰ This mill was a water-powered mill.³¹

Another early mill in the area was established some distance up the Calapooia River, 18 miles east of Brownsville, by Joseph Robnett.³²

Although located outside of the current project area, this sawmill supplied sawn lumber for this region. This mill was described as, "...an old style sash mill, run by water power from an overshot wheel in Carey Creek."³³ Timbers were hauled from this mill in the early 1860's to build the Brownsville woolen mills.³⁴

The second or third sawmill to be established in the project area was the R.C. Finley sawmill. This sawmill was located just west of the current Crawfordsville location, near the rodeo grounds.³⁵ One source gives the date of this sawmill as 1852.³⁶ Numerous individuals were involved with this sawmill including William May, Emerson E. Barter, William J. Linville, and Benjamin Kendall at various times in the 1850's.³⁷ This mill was run by Kendall and Barter in the early 1860's.³⁸ Kendall sold his interest in the mill to John McAllister in 1863.³⁹ The mill was described as an old style sash mill run by water power from an overshot wheel.⁴⁰ In 1870, this sawmill was operated by McDowell and Co.⁴¹ A.C. King was a partner in that business beginning 1872.⁴²

P.V. Crawford may have had a sawmill near the present Holly location (also outside of the current project area) in 1854.⁴³ This sawmill reportedly had a circular saw in addition to sash style saw but the date of its first use was not noted.⁴⁴ The first steam sawmill in the area was operated by Mr. Linville at the head of Brush Creek (outside of project area).⁴⁵ Hugh L. Montgomery, born in 1856, remembered seeing logs pulled to this mill by yoked oxen.⁴⁶ In 1861, Mr. Linville purchased seven and one-half acres of land from James Blakely and William McHargue in what is today the north part of Brownsville (in the general vicinity of the current Moyer House).⁴⁷ Mr. Linville had a planing mill in this location which was situated on the mill race.⁴⁸ In 1863, he sold this property to J.M. Moyer and John Brown for \$2500.00.⁴⁹

Ephriam Hughes lived along Warren Creek in 1853.⁵⁰ He had a sawmill in this location at some point but the date of its establishment is not known.⁵¹ In 1865, Benjamin Cutler built a sawmill on Courtney Creek about eight miles above Brownsville.⁵² This sawmill was a two-saw circular sawmill powered by steam.⁵³ This sawmill was in operation until 1903 although leased to others after 1875.⁵⁴

In 1869 or 1870, P.V. Crawford established a sawmill at the future site of Crawfordsville. Power for this mill was supplied by a mill race running from Brush Creek to the Calapooia River.⁵⁵ Recorded in the Brownsville Precinct in 1870 was the steam power sawmill of David Allingham.⁵⁶ In 1878, Kendig and Kbaffka had a large sawmill on the Calapooia River adjacent to the Moyer sash and door factory in Brownsville.⁵⁷

Small sawmills continued to operate in the area in the early 20th century but as large scale logging operations began in the area, larger sawmills were established employing a local labor force. In 1903, the Thurston Brothers erected a large sawmill at Crawfordsville.⁵⁸ It had been rumored that Southern Pacific was going to build a branch line from Brownsville to Crawfordsville to tap the timber resources of the Calapooia.⁵⁹ The Calapooia Lumber Company also operated in Crawfordsville in 1903.⁶⁰ In the early years of this century it was the largest sawmill and planing mill in Linn County. The company manufactured flooring, ceilings, molding, cedar shingles, doors, and windows.⁶¹ In 1922, the R.A. Stanwood sawmill was opened. This mill was located between Brownsville and Crawfordsville.⁶² The Papke sawmill was located on Courtney Creek in the 1932.⁶³ The Childer's sawmill was located on Courtney Creek in 1934.⁶⁴ Two other sawmills were located just southwest of Brownsville in the 1930's: the Brownsville Timber Co. mill and a mill later known as the Schnieder mill.⁶⁵ These mills were located on the railroad line.⁶⁶ The Brownsville Timber Co. was eventually purchased by a group of investors and became Brownsville Particle Board.⁶⁷ This company was the 2nd to manufacture particle board in the United States.⁶⁸

Timber Industry

Until the 1890's, when supplies of timber in other areas of the United States began to be exhausted, the harvesting of timber resources generally involved small scale operations. The largest logging operation in the Calapooia region in the 19th century was that of the Albany Co. of Allen and Robinson. In 1876, the state legislature gave the Calapooia Boom Company, of which Allen and Robinson, had controlling interest, exclusive rights to improve the Calapooia River between Crawfordsville to the Willamette River in Albany where the Allen and Robinson mill was located.⁶⁹ Improvements to the channel made it possible for the company

to float logs from the upper Calapooia to their mill.⁷⁰ "Loggers felled timber into the Calapooia and Brush Creek...for several months of the year, and then waited for winter rains, with the aid of splash dams, to float logs the forty-plus miles..."⁷¹

In the 20th century, various companies were involved with logging in this area. The Calapooia Lumber Co. of Crawfordsville, which manufactured finished wood products, also harvested timber. In August of 1903, The Brownsville Times announced that the company was erecting logging camps on the Calapooia.⁷² In March of 1913, Porter Brothers purchased 102,000 acres of timber land in Linn County, 27,000 acres of this land was located in the Calapooia River drainage.⁷³ In 1932, the Papke Lumber Co. purchased a large tract of timber in conjunction with its mill on Courtney Creek. The company planned to build a mile long plank road.⁷⁴

In reference to Brownsville, a 1928 promotional brochure noted that "Tributary to this city are thousands of acres of virgin timber,...Douglas fir, spruce, cedar, hemlock, pine, oak, ash, maple, and alder. In time, this will be harvested."⁷⁵

Woolen Mill and Carding Factory

Boag notes that; "while...the cattle trade dominated in the 1850's, the influence of sheep and their wool could already be seen with the establishment of textile mills during the same decade. County fair promotion and cotton shortages during the civil war both stimulated the growth of the woolen industry in the Willamette Valley during the 1860's."⁷⁶ Furthermore, the "natural environment of Linn County was conducive to sheep raising, and by 1865, it was the leading producer of wool in the Willamette..."⁷⁷ In 1860, a group of local entrepreneurs met with the idea of establishing a new industry for the area, a woolen mill.⁷⁸

The woolen mill was supposedly financed by subscriptions from local residents. Land for the woolen mill was purchased from James Blakely and his wife and William McHargue and his wife, who had purchased 72 acres in this location when they built the Brownsville Milling Co., a grist mill.⁷⁹ The land was purchased for \$50.00 in April of 1861.⁸⁰ Partners at that

time in the woolen mill venture, known as the Linn County Woolen Mill Co., were H.J.C. Averill (president), and William Lister, George Lillason, Elias Walters, James Blakely, David McDowell, and C. Hill.⁸¹ E.R. Geary and Hugh Brown were also financially involved in this venture. One source indicates that Rev. E.R. Geary was president in 1861.⁸² The land purchased, located adjacent to the Brownsville grist mill, provided access to the grist mill's mill race which was contracted for use as a power source.⁸³

The woolen mill was constructed in 1861 and consisted of a main building, dye house, wool sorting shed, and dry house in an L-shaped formation.⁸⁴ The buildings were painted white and covered with hand split cedar shingles.⁸⁵ The mill began operations in 1863.⁸⁶ The superintendent of the mill was John Worsley, who was trained in the textile business in England.⁸⁷ Worsley then sent for Thomas Kay who became the loom boss.⁸⁸ One source noted that this woolen mill was the second woolen mill to manufacture woolen materials west of the Rocky Mountains.⁸⁹

The town of Amelia, just to the east of the mill location, was platted by H.H. Spalding in the early 1860's.⁹⁰ In this location, Worsley went about building houses for the woolen mill employees to live in, and a boarding house for single men.⁹¹ Some experienced spinners and other types of workers were hired from the textile mills located in the eastern United States.⁹²

The woolen mill was destroyed by fire in 1865.⁹³ At that time, William McHargue was president, H.J. C. Averill and A.S. Bassett were directors.⁹⁴ In 1865, the woolen mill was reorganized by a group of local citizens as the Eagle Woolen Mills.⁹⁵ Directors of the Eagle Woolen Mills were H.L. Brown, E.E. Wheeler, W.R. Kirk, Hugh Dinwiddle, and the president was A.S. Bassett.⁹⁶ The mill was rebuilt having;

"...a main building 120 by 50 feet and one and a half stories high, with a wing 80 by 40 feet. The ground floor held the looms, the second floor, the carding and spinning machines. Across the road, the wool sorters worked on fleeces. Power was furnished by two great overshot water wheels."⁹⁷

Fifty people were on payroll in August of 1866.⁹⁸ Consumption of wool was about 150,000 pounds annually.⁹⁹ Most of the cloth was shipped to Portland and distributed from there.¹⁰⁰ Blankets and heavy cloth went east to the mines.¹⁰¹ In 1868 the mill closed because of economic difficulty and during the late 1860's and early 1870's the mill went through several changes in ownership remaining idle during much of this time. In the mid-1870's, the Eagle Woolen Mills were sold at auction to J.M. Moyer who became president of the newly organized Brownsville Woolen Mills Co.¹⁰² O.P. Coshow was secretary.¹⁰³ Thomas Kay was superintendent of the woolen mill which operated under his management until 1888.¹⁰⁴ In conjunction with the mill was a tailor shop which made shirts, undershirts and drawers.¹⁰⁵

In the late 1880's, Thomas Kay moved to Salem where he established the Thomas Kay Woolen Mills and in 1889, the Brownsville Woolen Mills Co. was sold to the Brownsville Woolen Manufacturing Co. Moyer was also president of this company.¹⁰⁶ That same year, the woolen mill was sold to another corporation known as the Eagle Woolen Mills Co. (the second time this name was used).¹⁰⁷ Riley Kirk was president and Hugh Fields also was heavily involved.¹⁰⁸ The mill was sold again several times in the period around the turn-of-the-century. Between 1912 and 1921, the woolen mill was inactive.¹⁰⁹ The mill was reopened in the early 1920's by J.L. Bowman who was induced to this area by a \$1000.00 subsidy offered by the Chamber of Commerce.¹¹⁰ Mr. Bowman died shortly after opening the mill again, but his widow leased it to R.D. Paris who operated it for several years in the early 1930's.¹¹¹ The mill was idle for several years again after Mr. Paris tenure but in the 1930's and early 1940's, Chester A. Page operated the mill.¹¹² In March of 1955, the woolen mill was destroyed by fire.¹¹³ For almost a century, it had provided a market for Willamette Valley wool growers.¹¹⁴

The establishment and operation of the Brownsville woolen mill enhanced the development of Brownsville on the north side of the Calapooia River. The woolen mill was a sustaining industry for the region during the 19th and 20th centuries.

In 1869 P.V. Crawford built a carding mill at Crawfordsville.¹¹⁵ (Crawford purchased the land in 1870 so this date may be slightly later.)

A carding mill was also built at Boston in the early 1860's but was soon destroyed by fire.¹¹⁶ Both of these carding mills were outside of the project area but at times supplied carded wool to the Brownsville mill.

Planing Mills and Sash and Door Factories

"Crucial to Oregon's architectural development were planing mills and sash and door and blind factories...the products of these industries facilitated adaptation for houses of current national architectural style, which depended in part on complex decorative elements; and the mills also led to utilitarian building through the availability of standardized materials."¹¹⁷

Possibly the earliest planing mill in the area was operated by William Linville on the north side of the Calapooia River in the area that became North Brownsville. Mr. Linville purchased the land for his mill in 1861.¹¹⁸ In 1863, he sold this property, consisting of 5 1/2 acres, to John Brown and J.M. Moyer for \$2500.00.¹¹⁹ John Brown was Moyer's brother-in-law and son of Hugh L. Brown. Moyer established his sash and door factory on this property. It is unknown if Linville also produced items related to a sash and door factory. Moyer operated the sash and door factory for many years in Brownsville. In 1876, he became the owner of the local woolen mill. By 1878, A.K. Thompson also had a sash and door factory in Brownsville.¹²⁰

Sash and Door factories were also located at Crawfordsville and Halsey. Crawford and Fuller built a planing mill at Crawfordsville.¹²¹ The Glass brothers took over the operation in 1884 and ran a sash and door factory until 1900.¹²² In the 1870's, the sash and door factory in Halsey was owned by David Allingham.¹²³ In 1876, he sold this factory to A.S. Bassett and Solomon Eusley.¹²⁴

Other Industries and Manufactories

The Tannery was an important pioneer industry providing leather for horse collars, harnesses and saddles. A tannery, run by Asbury Ellis, was established early in Brownsville.¹²⁵ In 1870, the tannery was operating as Ellis and Co.¹²⁶ George Spawn was listed as a tanner in the 1860

census records.¹²⁷ In 1878, the local tannery was operated by Brown and Adams.¹²⁸

The Linn County Churn Co. in Brownsville manufactured churns for many years distributing them throughout the county.¹²⁹ The company became defunct in 1891.¹³⁰ A chair factory was established in Brownsville in the 19th century.¹³¹

A "power" blacksmith shop was located at Crawfordsville. Here a man named Mr. Derrick, forged out axes, knives, and all kinds of fine steel work.¹³² Luella Colbert Robnett recalls that;

"...his bowie-knives and butchers knives became very famous throughout the country. There was much traffic with Eastern Oregon then, by way of the Cascade Mountain Wagon Road. The cowboys on the eastern range country would buy Derrick's Bowie-knives and sharpen them up to such a degree that they used them to shave with."¹³³

Several brick yards were located in the area sometime after 1864. Prior to that time, brick could be obtained from the Stites brick yard in Harrisburg. By 1877, there was a brick yard on the Amen farm 1/2 mile east of Brownsville and there was a brick yard west of Brownsville on the old John McKinney claim.¹³⁴

In 1907, the Brownsville Preserving and Canning Co. was opened.¹³⁵ The cannery closed in about 1909 and reopened in 1912.¹³⁶ The cannery burned in the winter of 1920-21.¹³⁷ After that time, produce was hauled to Eugene to be canned.¹³⁸ The Graves Canning Co. had a fruit receiving station that summer after they decided not to build a temporary cannery.¹³⁹

Cottage Industries

Wagon makers and wheelwrights were also essential in any pioneer community. Josiah Osborn, who settled on the Calapooia in 1846, was a wagon maker in addition to being a millwright and carpenter.¹⁴⁰ He had a wagon shop on his claim.¹⁴¹ Josiah Osborn also made furniture including spinning wheels and coffins.¹⁴² James Wirth (Worth?) was also an early

wagon maker who lived at Union Point.¹⁴³ William Wishard and John Albright were listed as wagon makers in the 1860 census records.¹⁴⁴ In 1870, Augustus Hausman was a wagon maker in Brownsville.¹⁴⁵

Elisha Griffiths, a settler of 1846, was a boot and shoemaker.¹⁴⁶ John 'Gunder' Wilson was a gunsmith who lived in the community of Union Point.¹⁴⁷ Joseph Sage was a furniture maker.

Because of the important role blacksmith shops played in a pioneer settlement, they appeared in the area early. The blacksmith shaped tools, repaired broken implements, and designed machinery in addition to shoeing horses.¹⁴⁸ Although not a blacksmith, Alexander Kirk supposedly built the first blacksmith shop in what was to become Brownsville, and leased it to blacksmith Thomas Wilcox.¹⁴⁹ Situated near the Territorial Road and the road to the R.C. Finley flour mill, the shop was in a good position to do a brisk business. The community of Union Point also had a blacksmith shop.¹⁵⁰ William Baird was the village blacksmith.¹⁵¹ Later, Mr. Baird had a shop in Brownsville.¹⁵² Other early blacksmiths included William Yates, Robert Ferguson, C. Martin and John Sperry.¹⁵³ Some farmers did their own blacksmithing work in outbuildings on their farms.

Mining

Mining activity within the project area has been limited. The local population was affected by mining strikes in other regions beginning with the California gold rush in the late 1840's, strikes in southern and eastern Oregon in the 1850's and 1860's, and still later, in the late 19th and early 20th century, with the strikes on the upper Calapooia River at what was known as the Blue River mining district (outside of the project area.) The impacts of these gold rushes were both direct and indirect. Many of the men in the area left their farms for the gold fields to find their fortune. It has been estimated that two-thirds of the able-bodied men in the Willamette Valley went to California.¹⁵⁴ Others stayed and profited from the sale of goods and services to the mining regions and the miners, who in the early years travelled the Territorial Road, and the Santiam Wagon Road to the mining regions. Still others became freighters, shipping local products to the mines using pack trains. This was the case with John A. Crawford who had an interest in the R. C. Finley Mill.

Crawford shipped flour to the California gold mines by pack trains with each trip netting him about one thousand dollars.¹⁵⁵

Mining in the project area occurred at a site about three miles south of Brownsville in the Union Point neighborhood. After it was reported that there were rich mineral deposits at this site, people of the neighborhood advanced money to a group of individuals who had made this report, for prospecting purposes.¹⁵⁶ Shafts and tunnels were excavated and samples from the mine turned in to an assay office indicated a large quantity of gold. After awhile, local people became suspicious of the operation and supposedly, someone sent a piece of an old grindstone to the assay office. When the assay office reported gold in the sample, mining development ceased.¹⁵⁷ The date of this apparent swindle is uncertain but the 1878 Marion and Linn Counties Historical Atlas noted in speaking of this region that gold and silver have been discovered.¹⁵⁸

Several area residents were involved with the gold strikes on the upper Calapooia River in the period around the turn-of-the-century. Wm. W. Robe was the president of the Callapooya Blue River Mill and Mining Co.¹⁵⁹ Peter Hume was the secretary of the Trinity Mining and Milling Co.¹⁶⁰

The Lacombe Oil Company drilled for oil in the area in 1920.¹⁶¹ The July 21, 1927 Brownsville Times noted that several hundred acres of land north of town were leased to an oil company. Drilling was anticipated to begin within one year from the date of the lease.¹⁶²

Quarrying

A stone quarry was located in the Union Point neighborhood on the former James Wilson claim. Rock from this quarry was used at an early date to build foundations and chimneys.¹⁶³ It was noted that rock from this quarry was "...a soft, easily worked rock, and wonderful for fireplaces and chimneys as it never cracks or crumbles when exposed to fire."¹⁶⁴ In 1890, two carloads of this stone were shipped to Portland for the construction of the East, Portland, Oregon Methodist Church. The Albany Daily Democrat of Aug. 16, 1890 noted that;

"To-day Blackman and Abraham shipped from this city to East Portland ...two loads of dressed stone. Among the pieces are two for pillars. One is 12 feet 9 inches long and 20 x 14 inches, and weighs about two tons. It is as fine a stone as was ever gotten out in the valley. This quarry is doing a big business, their weekly payroll showing up in round figures."¹⁶⁵

**Prominent Individuals Associated with the Theme
of Industry / Manufacturing and Processing**

R.C. Finley: Built and operated the first gristmill south of Oregon City. In the late 1840's and early 1850's, this mill was used by local residents and miners on their way to the goldfields. Also built sawmill in the early 1850's just to the east of his gristmill.

John McKercher: Operated the former Finley gristmill for many years in the 20th century.

James McHargue: Helped to construct the R.C. Finley mill and was one of the founders of the Brownsville Milling Co. which built a mill race and gristmill in the late 1850's in the area which became Amelia and North Brownsville.

William McHargue: Brother of James McHargue who was a founder of the Brownsville Milling Co. President of the Linn County Woolen Mills in 1865. The grist mill led to the development of the community of North Brownsville which was platted on land owned by the partners of the gristmill.

James Blakely: One of the founders of the Brownsville Milling Co. and one of the founding partners of the Linn County Woolen Mill Co.

Edward Geary: One of the financial backers and a president(?) of the Linn County Woolen Mill Co. Geary also was supposedly the partner who made a trip to the east coast to secure machinery for the woolen mill.

Hugh Brown: One of the financial backers of the Linn County Woolen Mill.

Andrew Warren: Co-partner in the Brownsville Milling Co. Along with other partners, A.S. Bassett, and William McHargue, may have platted North Brownsville.

A.S. Bassett: President of the Linn County Woolen Mills in 1864 and president of the Eagle Woolen Mills in 1866. He was also a partner in the Brownsville Milling Co. A.S. Bassett, with William McHargue and Andrew Warren may have platted North Brownsville.

James R. Templeton: Established a sawmill on the Calapooia River in 1850. This sawmill may have been the first sawmill in Linn County.

William Linville: Carpenter and owner of several sawmills. He may have built the first planing mill in the region in 1861.

P.V. Crawford: Platted the town of Crawfordsville. Established a sawmill and carding mill in this location.

J.M. Moyer: Owner of the local sash and door factory beginning in 1863. He was also the owner of the Brownsville Woolen Mill Co.

Thomas Kay: Superintendent of the Brownsville Woolen Mill Co. English emigrant who worked in the textile mills on the east coast of the United States and was hired as loom boss for the Linn County Woolen Mills, predecessor of the Brownsville Woolen Mill Co, in 1863. In the late 1880's Kay was one of the founders of the Thomas Kay Woolen Mills in Salem.

John Worsley: First superintendent of the Linn County Woolen Mills. Worsley hired Thomas Kay as loom boss. He had housing built to house woolen mill workers.

Riley Kirk: President of the Eagle Woolen Mill.

Hugh Fields: Heavily involved in the Eagle Woolen Mill. Mr. Fields was referred to as "Sheep King" for his involvement in the establishment of the wool industry in eastern Oregon.

Josiah Osborn: Early settler who was a carpenter, millwright, and wagon maker who had a wagon shop on his claim. Osborn was building a mill at the Whitman Mission in Idaho in 1847 when the Whitman Massacre occurred. Osborn was also a furniture maker who made, among other things, spinning wheels and coffins.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

Only one resource associated with the theme of Industry has been inventoried thus far: the site of the R.C. Finley gristmill.

Resources Types

- Mill/grist
- Mill/sawmill
- Mill/planing
- Mill/carding
- Mill/woolen
- Mill/woolen/wool sorting shed
- Mill/woolen/dye house
- Mill/woolen/tailor shop
- Mill related/mill race
- Mill related/tailrace
- Mill related/flume
- Mill related/dam
- Mill related/water wheel
- Mill related/turbine
- Mill related/mill pond
- Mill related/mill stone
- Mill/lumber
- Mill related/lumber/wigwam burner
- Logging/camp
- Logging/road
- Logging/railroad
- Logging related/oxen barn
- Logging related/flume

- Logging related/plank road
- Logging related/splash dam
- Residence/worker's housing
- Residence/boarding house
- Industrial/sash and door factory
- Industrial/tannery
- Industrial/factory
- Industrial/brick yard
- Industrial/brick yard/kiln
- Industrial/food processing/cannery
- Industrial/warehouse
- Cottage Industry/blacksmith shop
- Cottage Industry/wheelwright shop
- Cottage Industry/wagon maker's shop
- Cottage Industry/shoe maker's shop
- Mining/Quarry

Discussion and Distribution

Neither of the two grist mills in the Brownsville Precinct are still standing. The site of the Finley Mill is currently a county park. The mill race which powered the Brownsville Milling Co., and later the woolen mills, still exists. Other related features may also be located during the reconnaissance of the project area.

The earliest sawmills relied on water wheels for power. Therefore, the locations of these early mills were situated on the Calapooia River and tributary streams, especially Courtney Creek. The R.C. Finley sawmill was located just west of Crawfordsville in T14S, R2W, NE 1/4 of Section 13. The J.R. Templeton sawmill was located in 14S, R2W, NW1/4 of Section 12.¹⁶⁶ It is likely that flumes or ditches were used to carry water to the overshot wheels which powered these upright sash saws. A mill pond may have also been necessary to provide water for the flume. The Ephriam Hughes sawmill was located on Warren Creek in T13S, R2W, section 34.¹⁶⁷ It is not known if this was a water or steam operated sawmill. The steam powered sawmill of Benjamin Cutler was located in the upper Courtney Creek drainage within the project area, although a specific location is uncertain. Since these types of sawmills were often portable, locating

any evidence of this and other steam powered sawmills is unlikely. Buildings were sometimes associated with sawmills including structures such as ox barns. These were more likely built in the tributary stream valleys which were more wooded.

Evidence of logging activity, such as logging camps and roads, may also be located in the uplands of the project area. No logging railroads were constructed in the project area. In 1932, the Papke sawmill proposed to build a plank road for their sawmill on Courtney Creek.¹⁶⁸

The Brownsville woolen mills were not located in the project area. Some of the mill workers who emigrated from the eastern United States may have lived in rural housing near the mill.

Like their 20th century counterpart, the service station, blacksmith shops were often located at the intersection of major crossroads in the 19th century.¹⁶⁹ Many farmers had blacksmith shops associated with their farms.

The locations of two brick yards in the project area are known. Both were located close to Brownsville, and near the Calapooia River. The only cannery in the area was located in Brownsville. Josiah Osborn and James Wirth, early wagon makers, had wagon shops located on their property.

The location of the stone quarry which supplied so much of the early building stone in the region is in T14S, R3W, section 24.

Methodology

The reconnaissance phase of the project will record the millrace. The site of the R.C. Finley gristmill will be visited to determine if any mill related features still exist. Likewise, known early sawmill locations will be included in the reconnaissance and in general the Courtney Creek drainage will be surveyed for sawmill and logging related structures and features. Major crossroads will be viewed as possible locations for blacksmith shops. Brick yard locations will be surveyed to determine if any structures used in the manufacture of brick remain. The location of the stone quarry will also be included in the survey phase.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

Only 10 resources associated with the context of industry were located during the current project. Few of the anticipated resource types were located. Evidence of early sawmills was limited to a piling in the Calapooia River where the 1850 J.R. Templeton Mill was generally located. logging related resources were also rare with only 2 bunkhouses and a logging office located. No buildings associated with the manufacture of brick were located. The early stone quarry in the gap area was not visited during the current project. Resources related to the context of Industry are listed in Table 1. Table 2 enumerates the types of industrial resources. A slaughter house and associated buildings were included under both the context of stock raising and industry.

RESOURCE EVALUATION

Since resources representing the context of industry were varied, the evaluation looked at each resource individually to determine if the resource may met the criteria for inclusion on the Linn County Register of Historic Resources.

TABLE 1

Resources Representing the Context of Industry

From reconnaissance of current project.

12	Logging office building
13, 14	Bunkhouses
29	Josiah Osborn settlement site
33	R.C. Finley gristmill site
39	J.R. Templeton sawmill site
95	Slaughter house
96	Hog scalding building
97	Hog barn for slaughter house
111	Brownsville ditch (mill race and conversion dam)

Bold indicates resource site is significant or potentially significant and one or more of the treatment strategies needs to be applied.

TABLE 2

Resource Types Representing the Context of Industry

Logging related buildings =	3
Sites =	3
Mill race =	1
Slaughter house buildings =	3



FIGURE 1: R.C. Finley Grist Mill
(later McKercher Mill)
W.P.A. Photograph, State Library

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

THEME: **TRANSPORTATION**

SCOPE: **1845-1940**

Early Roads (1845-1860's)

Boag notes that many of the same factors governing the choice of land also were considered when locating early roads. The earliest settlers entered Linn County from the north crossing the Santiam River at Syracuse City near the present town of Jefferson. "The earliest road to the Calapooia twisted and turned along the base of the eastern Willamette Valley foothills."¹ Thus, the winter-wet prairie was avoided. This route, which led south from Oregon City to Pleasant Hill in Lane County, was eventually surveyed as the Territorial Road.

The Territorial Road entered the project area in the vicinity of what became the William Cochran farm. The route then led south to Kirk's Ferry on the Calapooia. After crossing the river, the road continued south to "the gap" and the 1850's community of Union Point. The gap was a pass between the high buttes and the foothills of the Cascades. The road left the gap at what is the southern boundary of the project area.

The Territorial Road was used by newly arrived immigrants heading south and by settlers heading north to Oregon City for supplies. The route also became a major artery from the Willamette Valley to the California and southern Oregon gold fields. Along this route travelled miners and freighters carrying dried fruits and hams to be sold to the miners. Cattle were also driven to California along this route.

The first settlers travelled by ox-drawn or horse drawn wagon or horseback. Marena Michael Fruit, born in 1864, recalled that; " In the early days everyone travelled by horseback. Every farmer, and farmer boy, had a saddle-horse and used it exclusively unless a heavy load was to be moved." ²

The earliest roads in the project area intersected the Territorial Road and led up the Calapooia River Valley where many of the earliest claims were taken. In the early 1850's, one road was located on the north side of the river, and two routes were located on the south side of the river: one

adjacent to the river and one further to the south at the base of the foothills. These roads, or trails, may have actually been previously established routes of travel for the Native peoples of the region. All three roads led to the locality of the Richard Finley gristmill which was built in the late 1840's. As claims were taken, fences were erected and early roads were actually a series of farm lanes. The road from the Finley mill along the base of the southern foothills, which eventually led to Union Point after its establishment in the mid-1850's, was described by Catherine Louise McHargue Hume. She recalled that:

"That old road was much travelled although it was not a road in the sense that we now think of roads. It was simply a succession of farm lanes leading from one claim to another and invariably ending up in a claim barnyard. Then another lane would lead onto the next barnyard. There would be a gate at each claim line and sometimes one or two in between. There used to be at least ten gates to open and shut between Union Point and the Finley mill. Still it was the main road for that region."³

From these east-west roads up the Calapooia River valley, roads were established a short distance up Warren Creek and Courtney Creek. By 1869, the road up the Courtney Creek valley extended to Crawfordsville.

Another very early road led northwest of Brownsville to Albany. In 1850, T. Davis, Jarvis Briggs, and E. B. Hughes were appointed as road viewers by the county court to view a road from Albany to Kirks and on to William Robnotte [Robinette] on the south side of the Calapooia.⁴ West of Brownsville, this road led diagonally across the prairie, unlike the grid-like pattern of later roads.⁵ Another Road led southwest to the Harrisburg vicinity.⁶ It too struck off across the prairie in a diagonal direction. This type of road pattern developed prior to the settlement of many portions of the valley floor. When claims were established, the road pattern changed abruptly to a north-south, east-west pattern reflecting the requirements that land claims taken after 1850 incorporate cardinal directions in their placement. Roads often followed land claim boundaries.

More roads on the valley floor in the project area were developed in the 1850's. The development of these roads reflected the increased settlement of the region and the initiation of steamboat travel on the Willamette. East-west trending roads from the foothills to the river were needed to allow farmers to ship their farm products. Later, when the railroad was completed through the valley, the railroad towns of Halsey and Shedd were platted at the junction of an east-west trending road and the railroad. Roads established in the 1850's include: (1) a portion of west Linn Road to connect with the Territorial Road from Knox Butte to Lytel's ferry on the Willamette; a route which later became Hwy. 228 connected to Peoria road just south of Peoria; (3) a route from Union Point to connect with Territorial Road leading from Knox Butte to Lytel's ferry on the Willamette (Ranch Drive to Lake Creek Drive). ⁷

Roads (1870's-1890's)

With the completion of the railroad through the county in 1870-71 and the changing emphasis concentrating the population on the valley floor, more roads were established in this area.

Roads (20th Century)

State Hwy. 228 known as the Halsey-Sweet Home Road became a state highway in 1931. In 1926, petitions were circulated to have the Halsey-Brownsville portion of the road paved. Paving must have been completed shortly thereafter, because in 1930, this was the only paved road in the project area. The road was paved only as far as Brownsville. East of Brownsville, this road was a market road. After the state acquired the highway, paving and regrading took place in 1932. In conjunction with this work, a new bridge over the Calapooia River was built. The road was also shortened. Lake Creek School to Brownsville Road and Linn West Road were market Roads. A number of trails bisected the southeast portion of the project area.

Ferries and Bridges

When Alexander Kirk arrived in the region in 1846, he purchased squatter's rights to a piece of land on the Calapooia River. Kirk chose this land because it had the best site for a ferry on the Calapooia. Shortly thereafter, he established a ferry in this location adjacent to the Territorial Road. The Kirk ferry was a winter ferry since the low river levels of the summer precluded the need for a ferry. "The ferry boat was merely a small scow or flat-boat, just large enough to carry one team or a wagon. It was operated by means of a rope stretched across the stream and when loaded it was pulled across by hand."⁸ Leander Kirk's, Alexander Kirk's son, recalled that his father also had a canoe tied near the ferry which he used to carry single passengers, especially children crossing from the north side on their way to school.⁹

The location of the ferry became known as Kirk's ferry and in 1850, a post office, known as Calapooia, was established in this location. Alexander Kirk also operated an inn and a tavern in his house to serve travellers on the Territorial Road.¹⁰ A store was established in this location in ca. 1850 and there was also a blacksmith shop and a school nearby by 1853.¹¹ Eventually this crossing of the Calapooia became the town of Brownsville.

As the population increased and more people travelled the Territorial Road, ferries became cumbersome. In 1853 or 1854, the first bridge across the Calapooia River was built in this location. The bridge, a covered bridge, was built by J. Conser.¹² This was the first bridge built using county funds in Linn County.¹³ Another early bridge was built over the Calapooia River near the location of the R.C. Finley gristmill. This bridge, also a covered bridge, was built by William Matlock.¹⁴

Prior to the establishment of the Warren and Oak Grove School Districts east of Brownsville, children in this area attended the McHargue school located on the south side of the Calapooia River near Courtney Creek. Lewis Tycer, who lived on the north side of the river, recalled that when he attended the McHargue school, he crossed the river by means of a "big drift".¹⁵ When the Oak Grove School District was established in the 1890's on the south side of the Calapooia River, a suspension bridge was built in this location for students who attended this school who lived on the north side of the river.¹⁶

Steamboats

Since the Calapooia was not a navigable river, steamboats only played an indirect role in the development of the Brownsville area. Prior to the advent of steamboat travel in the region, settlers of the Calapooia either marketed commodities locally or transported the products by wagon to the Willamette River where they could be drifted down river in flatboats or canoes. Steamboat travel on the Willamette River in the central and southern portions of the valley began in the early 1850's. In 1856, the James Clinton was the first steamboat to navigate the Willamette River all the way to Eugene.¹⁷ Steamboat traffic on the Willamette was at its height in the 1860's and 1870's after which the railroad became the prime mover of agricultural products in the valley. Steamboats provided a means of reaching distant markets and encouraged the large scale production of wheat. Major shipping points in Linn County, which included Harrisburg, Burlington for a few years and then Peoria, Orleans until 1861-62 (across from Corvallis), and Albany, were located a good distance from the Brownsville region. There was also a number of small landings along the river in Linn County. Good roads were necessary in order for farmers to transport wheat to the river locations. Several east-west roads were developed in this period. (See road section.)

Stage Lines

Stage coaches of the California Stage Co. began operating in Linn County in 1860.¹⁸ This line provided daily service between Portland and Sacramento. Through Linn County, the stage coaches followed the Territorial Road along the eastern foothills. Of the east-west stage routes through Linn County, the Willamette Valley and Ochoco Valley Stage Line provided service along the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road. This wagon road, completed in the mid-1860's, provided the only crossing of the Cascade Mountains in the central and southern Willamette Valley. The stage originated in Halsey and Keeney and Gross of Brownsville were the owners.¹⁹

In the early 1890's, John O. Fox was the proprietor of the Crawfordsville Stage Line which provided daily service from Brownsville to

Crawfordsville.²⁰ The fare was fifty cents. In the 1910's, John H. Higgin was the proprietor of the Brownsville and Sweet Home Stage.²¹

Railroads

Like the steamboat, the route of the first railroad in Linn County did not traverse the current project area. Instead, the railroad was built on the valley floor approximately one mile west of the western project boundary. The Oregon and California Railroad completed laying track in Linn County in 1870-71. The completion of the railroad resulted in a 250% increase of wheat production over a seven year period (from the latter part of the 1860's to 1875).²² At the same time, the value of land on the prairie floor rose 110%.²³

The eventual goal of the railroad was a California connection. This link was not completed until 1887, at which point the line was taken over by Southern Pacific.²⁴ The railroad resulted in the development of several railroad towns which became grain shipping points. Near the project area, the town of Halsey was established at the intersection of the railroad and one of the major east-west roads leading from Brownsville to Peoria. The town of Halsey became the location of a number of grain warehouses and as such became a regional trading center for many of the farmers living in the valley portions of the central project area. Harrisburg, already a major steamboat landing, was also located on the line of the O. and C. Harrisburg was probably the regional trading center for farmers in the southwest portion of the project area.

In 1880, a railroad line was constructed through Brownsville. Beginning in the later part of the 1870's, narrow gauge railroads were constructed in the valley to serve areas missed by the O. and C.²⁵ Unlike the O. and C., these railroads were constructed without the aid of large federal land grants. In 1877, farmers from the Sheridan, Willamina, Bellvue, Perrydale, Dallas area met to discuss the possibilities of building a railroad in that area.²⁶ Without rail service, these farmers on the west side of the Willamette River found it impossible to compete with farmers on the east side of the river who could ship their products with the O. and C. The meeting resulted in the incorporation of the Dayton, Sheridan, and Grande Ronde Railroad.²⁷ The line, which was initially constructed

from Sheridan to Dayton, was taken over by creditors shortly after its construction. A group of Scottish capitalists, headed by the Earl of Airlie, paid off the indebtedness and took over the railroad.²⁸ The line was renamed the Oregonian Railway Limited and William Reid became the president and general manager.²⁹ The company established a terminal on the east side of the Willamette River at Ray's landing. From this point, they constructed track through St. Paul, Woodburn, Silverton, and south through Linn County to Brownsville.³⁰ Like the farmers on the west side of the river who lacked a rail connection, the route of this line served communities on the east side of the Willamette that were also located some distance from the O. and C. and the river. The line was completed to Brownsville in December of 1880.³¹ From Brownsville, track was laid to Coburg reaching there in 1882.³² This was the second rail line in Linn County.

This narrow gauge line provided competition for Villard's O. and C. and so he worked to obtain a lease of the Oregonian Railway Limited. He proceeded to make it a feeder line for his railroad.³³ By the time the Oregonian Railway Limited went into receivership in 1885, the system had been broken into six separate parts.³⁴ In general, repairs had not been made on the line during the years Villard leased it and his policies helped to ruin the line. The line was abandoned until 1890 when Southern Pacific took over the line and constructed an extension from Coburg to Springfield.³⁵ Southern Pacific also changed the line to regular gauge.

In the project area, there were several rural "stations" including Linn Station located north of Brownsville, and Twin Buttes and Crocus both located south of Brownsville.³⁶ Passenger service was available until the 1930's.³⁷ Toward the end of the era of passenger service, a passenger car was simply added to the local freight train.³⁸ At that time service was available to Albany and Springfield. Freight shipped from Brownsville in the early 20th century included products of the local creameries and cannery, hay, and timber. The train was also a "cream can run", one that picked up cream cans from local farmers.³⁹ Passenger service was also available on the Southern Pacific main line from the station in Halsey. Connections at Halsey were made by the Brownsville-Halsey stage line from

Brownsville.⁴⁰ In 1925, trains on the main line with connections via the stage line included the Portland-Eugene route and the Coos Bay-Portland Route.⁴¹

At the turn-of-the-century there was speculation that Southern Pacific was going to build a line from Brownsville to Crawfordsville to tap the timber resources of the upper Calapooia.⁴² This line was never built.

In recent years, the railroad line to Brownsville was abandoned. Tracks of this line south of Lebanon were removed.

Air Travel

In 1929, an airport was constructed on the Millwood Ranch. The Brownsville Times of Sept. 19, 1929 noted that;

"One of the biggest and best improvements to the Brownsville community in recent years is the establishment of a government airport on the Millwood Ranch northwest of town where the government has leased 62 acres from Mr. Beeman owner of the ranch...The field will be in an L shape so that planes may land in any of four directions according to the wind...All the landing ground will be surfaced and the field will be lighted each night by a row of lights completely surrounding the field. A large beacon light will also be put on the hill south of the Beeman house for night and fog flying. This beacon light will show for fifty miles...Mr. Beeman will have charge of the field..."⁴³

The newspaper article also noted that Hangers may be built as well as a building for emergency gas supply.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

Previous surveys have not identified any resources in the project area associated with the theme of Transportation. Wagon ruts of the

Territorial Road were inventoried in an area south of the current project area.

Resource Types:

Roads

trails

ferries

bridges

automobile garages

carriage house (barn or stable)

gas station

blacksmith shop

automobile repair shop

railroad

rail related/bridge

rail related/depot

rail related/warehouse

stagecoach stop

airport

airplane landing strip

TABLE 1

Resources Associated with the Theme of Transportation

Recorded during current project.*

- 21 late 1840's early 1850's road to Finley gristmill
- 86 Radiator repair shop
- 225 Airplane hanger (altered)
- 298 Luther White stagecoach stop site**
- 304 Rail bed (tracks removed)
- 306 Territorial Road (portions of)**

Bold indicates resource site is significant and one or more of the treatment strategies should be applied.

* In addition to the above resources, there were 22 auto garages and two carriage barns or stables.

TABLE 2

Resource Types Associated with the Theme of Transportation

Roads =	2
Auto repair shop =	1
Airplane hanger =	1
Sites =	1
Rail bed =	1

TABLE 1

Resources Associated with the Theme of Transportation

(Recorded during current project.)*

21 **late 1840's early 1850's road to Finley gristmill**
86 Radiator repair shop
225 Airplane hanger (altered)
298 **Luther White stagecoach stop site**
304 Rail bed (tracks removed)
306 **Territorial Road (portions of)**

Bold indicates resource site is significant and one or more of the treatment strategies should be applied.

* In addition to the above resources, there were 22 auto garages and two carriage barns or stables.

TABLE 2

Resource Types Associated with the Theme of Transportation

Roads =	2
Auto repair shop =	1
Airplane hanger =	1
Sites =	1
Rail bed =	1

THEME: RELIGION

SCOPE: 1840'S-1940

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

The religious convictions of the first Oregon emigrants were generally fixed and not altered by emigration to a new area. "A Methodist in the east remained a Methodist throughout his journey and so founded a Methodist home when Oregon was reached. Where one Methodist settled, there others of his friends and acquaintances came..."¹ In Linn County this is especially true and most denominations established here early are the result of a closely knit family group or colony settling in a region.²

The Methodist Episcopal Church, the first to establish itself in the county, had a head start with the establishment of the Jason Lee Mission in 1834 near Salem.³ One source, not verified, stated that Philip Legett Edwards, one of Lee's party, preached to Native peoples in this region in 1835. According to this source, he preached "beneath a great spreading maple tree...about three miles east of Brownsville" [where] "Edwards is said to have gathered the Calapooia Tribesmen about him and there preached the gospel."⁴

The first organized Methodist Church in Linn County was established in Albany in 1846.⁵ Soon thereafter, Rev. John McKinney was sent to the Calapooia and "given charge of all Methodist work in the south portions of the valley."⁶ "Father" John McKinney made his headquarters at Kirk's Ferry (later Brownsville) where he took a Donation Land Claim.⁷ (The Kirks who settled here and operated the ferry were staunch Methodists.) On his claim, adjoining the Kirk claim, in T14S, R3W, Section 2, he built what was believed to be the first church building constructed in Linn County.⁸ The church was supposedly located on the east line of his claim.⁹ Some sources give the date of construction as 1848. Sawn lumber, used in the church's construction was probably not available locally, however, until 1849 or 1850.¹⁰ This building was known as McKinney's Meeting House. Rev. McKinney also had a parsonage which was apparently used as a school. Father McKinney's circuit was a large one, including almost all parts of the region south of the Santiam River.¹¹ In 1857, the

Calapooya Circuit was formally organized with Philip Starr as the circuit rider. The headquarters of the Calapooya circuit was in Brownsville. By 1857, the circuit included Wesley Chapel.¹²

Wesley Chapel, once located in T13S, R3W, Section 32, was established on the "Penland" claim (three miles west of Brownsville on what is today Bond Drive approximately a mile or less north of Highway 228).¹³ Among the congregation were the Van Winkle and the Pearl families. James Pearl was a local Methodist preacher as were Joseph and John Pearl, his sons.¹⁴ James Pearl apparently served the circuit in the absence of the regular preacher.¹⁵ Methodist services were also held in the Center or Centre School (T14S, R3W, Section 27).¹⁶ Services were also held at the Brush Creek Schoolhouse near Crawfordsville (just outside of the project area).¹⁷ Elijah Michael, another Methodist preacher, was a relative of the Pearls. He belonged to the South Methodist faction.¹⁸ Eli Michael, his nephew, who lived in T14S, R3W, Section 14, had a front room of his 1858 house built very large to hold church meetings.¹⁹

The history of the establishment of the Presbyterian Church in this area actually begins in Bethlehem, Indiana in 1838 when an Associate Reformed Church was established. At first, there were 15 members composed largely of the Wilson and Dinwiddle families. In the early 1840's, Rev. Wilson Blain served as pastor of that congregation known as the Hebron Church. In 1847 he was appointed as a missionary to Oregon.²⁰

Early Presbyterian arrivals in the Calapooia area were John Courtney of the Associate Reformed Church and Josiah Osborn of the Associate Church.²¹ Regular church services were probably held in the cabins of the settlers, but a church was not founded until 1849 with the arrival of Wilson Blain.²² An Associate Reformed Church was organized in this area with Josiah Osborn and John Finley (Findlay?) as elders.²³ Wilson Blain moved to the area the following year and took a Donation Land Claim in T14S, R2W, Sections 7, 18, 19. He became pastor of a church constructed soon thereafter on his claim three miles south of Brownsville.²⁴ When Wilson Blain came to Oregon, he was followed by a considerable number of friends and

relatives from the Indiana church.²⁵ Among these were Robert Glass, the Dinwiddies, the Hendersons, James Wilson and other members of the Wilson clan, who all settled in the vicinity of Blain's church.²⁶

The Associate Church and the Associate Reformed Church did not diverge greatly in their beliefs and the matter of union between them had been long under discussion in the east.²⁷ The elders of the two Linn County Churches, the Blain Church and the Presbyterian Church at Oakville, communicated the desire to unite to their leaders in the east.²⁸ Both groups met at the residence of Wilson Blain and each adopted the basis of the union.²⁹ Thus in 1852 were formed the first two United Presbyterian Churches in the world.³⁰ The union of the eastern branches did not occur until 1858.³¹ As a result of this union, the location of the Blain Church became known as Union Point.

The Union Point church was situated so that it fronted north on a road which led east along the base of the foothills. The Territorial Road was situated a short distance to the west of the church. On this road, Blain noted that "Men bound to the gold mines are passing our door almost hourly". Recognizing the advantages of this location, Wilson Blain established a town on his claim. The town consisted of a school, several residences, a store, a gunsmith's shop, and the residence and workshop of Rev. James Worth (Wirth?) who was a wagon maker.³² Blain also established the Union Point Academy with a charter from the legislature in 1854.³³ For a time, Union Point even aspired to be the county seat of Linn County.³⁴ With the establishment of Brownsville, the importance of Union Point as a trading center and regional social center declined. By 1856, it was apparent that the Academy was not prospering and in 1858, a request was made to the legislature that part of the town plat be legally vacated.³⁵ Rev. Wilson Blain died in 1861 and "the doom of Union Point was sealed."³⁶ After the demise of Union Point, there was a United Presbyterian church organized at Brownsville.³⁷ This congregation held services in the former McKinney Meeting House for a number of years.³⁸ When this church lapsed, the meeting house was used by the Cumberland Presbyterians.³⁹ The Cumberland Presbyterians

were active in Brownsville and "Bishop's Academy was founded in Brownsville by "Professor" Bishop, a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher.

Another Presbyterian church, known simply as the "Presbyterian Church" was also established early in the area.⁴⁰ The first "Presbyterians" in this area were probably Captain James Blakely, founder of the town of Brownsville, and his uncle, Hugh L. Brown for whom the town is named.⁴¹ Brown and Blakely arrived in this area in 1846. Brown and Blakely communicated with Henry Harmon Spalding, the Presbyterian missionary who recently left Idaho after the Whitman massacre. They urged him to join their settlement as a pastor and teacher.⁴² Spalding came to the Calapooia, but was dissatisfied with the situation because all of the best land had already been claimed.⁴³ To satisfy Spalding, Blakely and Brown moved the lines of their claims apart, giving Spalding a fertile claim between them.⁴⁴ A schoolhouse was built on Spalding's land where church services were also held but a church was not formed at that time.⁴⁵ At some point, Spalding left the Presbyterian Church and became a Congregational minister. Meetings of this group were probably held in the Spalding Schoolhouse.⁴⁶

In 1847, William Templeton arrived in the area. Templeton was a Presbyterian and former neighbor of the Browns and the Blakely's.⁴⁷ For a time, he was a member of the Associate Reformed Church at Union Point. He wasn't satisfied, however, and at the invitation of Templeton and others, Rev. Edward Geary, a Presbyterian minister arrived in the area in 1856.⁴⁸ Templeton withdrew from the Union Point Church and in 1857 the Presbyterian Church was organized with the congregation holding meetings in the McKinney Meeting House.⁴⁹ In 1865, Rev. Robert Robe was assigned as pastor of the Brownsville Church.⁵⁰ Robe, who came to Oregon as a Presbyterian minister, stayed with H.H. Spalding and taught school at the Spalding schoolhouse when he first reached the Willamette Valley.⁵¹ Rev. Robe eventually established a Presbyterian Church in Crawfordsville in about 1880.⁵²

The first Baptist Church in the area was organized in 1853 in a schoolhouse at the base of Cochran's Butte (three miles north of Brownsville).⁵³ The church was formed as an off shoot of the Santiam Church in Sodaville to serve the families in this area.⁵⁴ Promoters of the church were Rev. William Sperry, Rev. G.C. Chandler, Deacon Claibourne Hill, and the well-known Baptist circuit rider Joab Powell.⁵⁵ The Church was given its name by Powell who arose at the close of a service and stated, "Brethern, you have a pleasant church here upon a pleasant butte, why not call this the Pleasant Butte Church?"⁵⁶ A short time later, land was secured upon another butte located approximately 1 1/2 miles to the west of Cochran's Butte. Here a church was built in 1854.⁵⁷ Another source gives the date of construction as 1855 with the building being erected by William Sperry, Claibourne Hill and A.W. Stanard and a few others.⁵⁸ Still another source indicates the church was built in 1858.⁵⁹ The first pastor of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church was William Sperry. Claibourne Hill and Thomas Hall were deacons.⁶⁰ Upon William Sperry's death in 1857, he was succeeded as pastor by his son Rev. Carpus Sperry.⁶¹ In 1861, Claibourne Hill legally transferred three acres of land in T13S, R3E, Section 23 to the trustees of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church for a Baptist Church building and a burying ground.⁶²

The first Unitarian Church in this region was organized by Abraham Wigle, a Unitarian minister in 1869.⁶³ Unitarian meetings were often held in the old "Centre" or Center School near Bond's Butte.⁶⁴ A Christian Church was also established in this area by the 1860's.⁶⁵ Services were first held in James Washburn's grain warehouse which was located within the Brownsville city limits (outside of the current project boundaries).⁶⁶

By the 1870's, it appears that the rural churches of this region were no longer used. Instead, church activities were centered in the communities of Halsey and Brownsville. At the turn-of-the-century, Brownsville churches included a Methodist Episcopal Church, a First Presbyterian Church, a Southern Methodist Church, a Baptist Church, and a Christian Church. The Wesley Chapel congregation built a church in Halsey in the early 1870's.

In 1929, Sister Alia Cocheell began preaching in the Oak Grove schoolhouse. She preached an "Independent" church at first with a congregation of between 25 and 35 people. In 1936 the congregation moved to Brownsville.⁶⁷

A Catholic church was apparently never organized in the project area. Of interest, however, is the manner in which the Catholic church held services in this area in the early 20th century. The Brownsville Times of December 3, 1909 noted that:

"The Catholic chapel car, St. Anthony, which was brought to Brownsville on Saturday, was taken to other parts Thursday. The car is a thoroughly equipped church, has its chaplain, a sexton, and an organist, besides the meeting hall has a kitchen, dining room, and sleeping rooms. While here, services were conducted during the day and evening." ⁶⁸

Mention should also be made of religious camp meetings which were viewed as a form of recreation in the 19th century. Several campgrounds were located in th project area. In referring to Methodist meetings, Boag quotes a witness to these meetings who says that;

"At the camp ground which was on the banks of the Calapooia...the maple trees made a fine shade and the people camped for weeks. I have often seen Father McKinney pacing back and forth before the alter exhorting the 'seekers' and people falling under the power and lying under all the front benches. Old Mother Bates and her two girls shouting and running in the aisles." ⁶⁹

Eli Michael's daughter, Marena Michael Fruit, noted that;

"One of the interludes between periods of work on the old Michael claim was the three weeks of Methodist Camp Meeting that usually took place each summer in July between the seasons of haying and harvest. The campgrounds were about three miles

south of Brownsville, on the road to Union Point. There were wooden booths put up there and people came from miles to take part in the meetings." 70

Redman Pearl, son of James Pearl, recalls camp meetings being held at Union Point after the Presbyterian church had lapsed. Mr. Pearl, who was born in 1858, said the church was gone and there was little left at Union Point when he attended camp meetings there.⁷¹

Members of the Unitarian Church met at Ettleman's Grove. Ettleman's Grove was located near Center School.

Prominent Individuals Associated with the Theme of Religion

Rev. John McKinney - Methodist missionary who built the first Methodist Church and probably the first church building in Linn County.

Orpha Lankton McKinney - Wife of Rev. John McKinney. Stewardess on the ship Lausanne carrying Methodist missionary Jason Lee's "Great Reinforcement", 1840.

Wilson Blain - In addition to establishing the Union Point Church, the Union Point Academy, and the town of Union Point, Wilson Blain is also associated with the establishment of the first United Presbyterian church. He was also, editor of the Oregon Spectator in 1849-1850 and a member of the first Territorial Legislature. The Union Point Academy was the forerunner of Albany College, now Lewis and Clark College.

Henry Harmon Spalding - Presbyterian missionary who, along with Marcus Whitman, were the first Presbyterian missionaries in the west in 1836. Spalding had a mission at Lapwai, in what was to become Idaho. Uprisings by the Cayuse Indians, resulting in the Whitman massacre, resulted in Spalding's relocation to the Calapooia River Valley. Here he built what is believed to be the first schoolhouse in this area.

Eliza Hart Spalding - Wife of Presbyterian missionary Henry Harmon Spalding. With Narcissa Whitman, she was the first white woman to cross the continent by the overland route.

Eliza Spalding Warren - Daughter of Henry Harmon Spalding and Eliza Spalding. First white child born west of the Rockies that lived. Considered girl heroine of the Whitman massacre.

Edward Geary - First pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Brownsville and first state school superintendent.

"Professor" Bishop - Cumberland Presbyterian minister who established Bishop's Academy in Brownsville.

Robert Robe - Came to Oregon as a Presbyterian missionary. Presbyterian pastor in Brownsville for 30 years. He also established a Presbyterian Church in Crawfordsville. Reverend Robe was also a school teacher who taught at the Spalding schoolhouse and later at the Warren schoolhouse. Owned a large sheep ranch.

Claiborn Hill - Baptist Church deacon involved in the establishment of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church. Gave the land for the church and the cemetery.

Joab Powell - Has been called the outstanding figure in all Linn County church history. Another writer has referred to Powell as the most famous preacher and circuit rider ever to proclaim the gospel in the Pacific Northwest. Although Powell's home church was located at Providence in the more northerly part of the county, Powell was instrumental in the establishment of the Pleasant Butte Church and also preached there as part of his circuit.

Abraham Wigle - Unitarian minister who established the first Unitarian Church in this region and perhaps the first Unitarian Church in the west.

Philip Starr - Methodist preacher who was appointed Methodist circuit rider for the Calapooya Circuit in 1857.

Elijah Michael - Preacher for the South Methodist Church who settled in this area in 1847. Early circuit rider who preached at Brownsville, Wesley Chapel, Harrisburg and at various schoolhouses. Church services and prayer and class meetings of this denomination were also held in Eli Michael's house. Eli was Elijah's nephew.

James Pearl - Local preacher for the Methodist-Episcopal Church. Prominent in the establishment of Wesley Chapel

Rev. William Sperry - Baptist minister prominent in the establishment of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church. Served as first pastor of that church.

Josiah Osborn - Early settler who was named elder when the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church was formed at what was to become Union Point. Although he staked a claim in this area in 1845, he was working for Marcus Whitman as a carpenter at the Whitman Mission at the time of the massacre. His family escaped death by hiding under the floorboards of their cabin.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

Previous surveys have identified three resources in the project area which are associated with the theme of religion. These resources are the site of the Spalding schoolhouse, an historical marker located at the Union Point site which dedicates the establishment of the first United Presbyterian Church, and the Henry Harmon Spalding House.

Resource Types

The following resource types can be associated with the theme of Religion:

- Church
- Church/residence (parsonage)
- Church/school
- Cemetery associated with a church location
- Church site/historic-archaeological
- horse sheds for sheltering the worshiper's horses and carriages
- Residence where church services were known to be held
- Campground

Discussion

The first church services were often held in the cabins of the settlers as was the case with the Presbyterians and others on the Calapooia.⁷² The second step in the development of churches was the meetings held in log schoolhouses. These schoolhouses were provided with puncheon floors, glazed windows, split log benches and shake roofs.⁷³ Spalding's first schoolhouse on the Calapooia was constructed of logs.⁷⁴ No log cabin schoolhouse in Linn County is known to survive. None of the churches in the project area were known to have been built of logs. With the establishment of sawmills, the era of real church building began.⁷⁵ One of the first of these lumber churches was the McKinney Meeting House (ca. 1850). Soon to follow were the Union Point Church and the Pleasant Butte Church. Wesley Chapel was also a lumber church. Historical accounts and photographs provide us with a description of several of these churches. The Union Point Church is described as...

"a rather large building, but had neither belfry, bell or steeple. It was boarded up on the outside but not in the inside. The building faced north and the pulpit was on the south. There was a small entrance hall, and one door leading from this to the main room. One end of the entrance hall was partitioned off and used as sort of a store room, for lumber, tools, paint and such building materials as were on hand. Whenever the church members had any spare time, they would work

on the church. The pews were homemade and privately owned...A big family had a long pew and a small one had a short pew."⁷⁶

The Wesley Chapel is described as "a small building frame and painted white."⁷⁷ It is further noted that almost all the early chapels were built on the same plan; they were low, rather flat-roofed structures without steeple or ornamentation, and usually painted white.⁷⁸ In general, these churches had glazed windows with small panes.⁷⁹

The photograph of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church (Figure 1) illustrates a building which fits the preceding description well. The description of the churches as "flat-roofed" undoubtedly reflects the Classical Revival influence on these early churches. Other Classical Revival elements include the wide frieze and rake boards and the returning eaves. The original appearance of the McKinney Meeting House is difficult to determine from the photograph (Figure 2) which shows the building after it was moved and a remodeling episode which added a false front.

Beginning in the 1860's, church buildings in the county became larger. In general roofs became steep and a belfry often rose from the front entrance terminating in a tapering spire. "At their best, these churches were a typically beautiful feature of this region and in their gleaming whiteness seemed to typify all the integrity, simplicity, grace, and purity of Idealized Christianity."⁸⁰ These types of churches were built in Brownsville and Halsey, descendants of the earlier rural churches.

Characteristics of other resource types such as parsonages and cabins where church services were held are described in the context entitled 19th Century Domestic Architecture since these buildings were built for dwelling houses rather than churches. Likewise, characteristics of school buildings used for church services are described in the context entitled Education. Horse sheds for sheltering the worshiper's animals and carriages have been described as low sheds in long rows located at the sides and/or back of the church grounds.⁸¹

Distribution Patterns of Resource Types

The locations of most of the resources associated with the theme of religion are known. Unfortunately, research has indicated that none of the church buildings, cabins or schools in which church services were held, are still standing. Wesley Chapel is reported to have burned down.⁸² The McKinney Meeting House was moved into Brownsville, remodeled and used as a store.⁸³ The known sites of resources associated with religion will be checked on aerial photographs and in the field to determine if there are associated features such as cemeteries, outbuildings, dwellings used for parsonages, or landscaping elements. Since these early sites may have archaeological value, ground disturbance will also be noted.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

A total of four resources representing the historic context of religion were recorded during the reconnaissance. As anticipated, no church buildings or associated features were found in the course of the reconnaissance. All resources recorded during the course of the current project were sites which may be important from an historical or archaeological perspective. Previous inventories recorded two resources associated with religion--the Henry Spalding House and the Union Point marker. All surveyed resources associated with the historic context of religion are listed in Table 1. Resource types are enumerated in Table 2.

Sites were located using the 1853 overlay maps. Artifacts were observed at the Josiah Osborn site and at the McKinney Meeting Place and parsonage site. No artifacts were observed at the Union Point site, but vegetation was very dense in most site areas. No obvious artifacts were located at the Spalding schoolhouse site. A fragment of rock, which looked much like the rock quarried for the foundations and fireplaces of early buildings in the area, was located. The lack of artifacts visible on the surface may be attributed to the limited artifact assemblage one could expect with a log school building.

The only standing structure associated with the historic context of religion is the Henry Spalding House. Only the rear portion of this house could date to the Spalding occupancy.

RESOURCE EVALUATION

The great majority of the resources associated with the context of religion have been evaluated as significant or potentially significant. These determinations were made largely on the early dates of the resources and the importance of the individuals associated with the resources. Sites with archaeological potential, such as the Osborn settlement site, the Spalding schoolhouse site, the McKinney Meeting House site and the Union Point townsite, may meet criteria D of the National Register. Only archaeological testing of these sites could verify their significance. All of the sites have historical significance for associations with individuals and developments identified in the historic context statement. The only standing structure, the Henry Spalding House, has been determined eligible for the National Register. The significance of the Union Point marker, as an object, has not been determined. More information on the history of its erection is needed.

TABLE 1

Resources Representing the Context of Religion

(From reconnaissance of current project.)

- 29 Josiah Osborn settlement site
- 278 Schoolhouse site (Henry H. Spalding)
- 295 McKinney meeting house (site)
- 348 Union Point town site

(Previous inventory projects.)

- SHPO 323 Spalding House
- SHPO 326 Union Point Marker

Bold indicates resources evaluated as significant or potentially significant.

TABLE 2

Resource Types Representing the Context of Religion

Sites = 4
Marker = 1
Farmhouse = 1 (rear portion of house)

FOOTNOTES:

¹ Haskin, Leslie L. et al., Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1983, p. 6.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Haskin, Leslie L., "Interview with Leander Kirk", Oral History Interview Collection. Federal Writer's Project, WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION, Photostatic copies on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, n.p.

¹⁰ Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Buildings, p. 6.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 7.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Haskin, Leslie L. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, Copied, typed and indexed by Vera Swartz and Richard R. Milligan, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1989, p. 39.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 7.

¹⁸ Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, p. 39.

¹⁹ Haskin, Leslie, L. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III. Copied and Typed by Dorothy I. Milligan and Marge Manuma, Linn Benton Genealogical Services, Albany, Oregon, 1985, p. 84.

- 20 Haskin, Leslie L. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Volume I. (Copied and indexed by Nina L. Williamson for the Linn Genealogical Society.) Early Pioneer Publications, Albany, Oregon, 1984, p. 87.
- 21 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 8.
- 22 Ibid.
- 23 Ibid.
- 24 Ibid., p. 9
- 25 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Volume I, p. 87.
- 26 Ibid.
- 27 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 9.
- 28 Ibid.
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 Ibid.
- 31 Ibid.
- 32 Haskin, Leslie L. et al. History of Linn County, Work Projects Administration, 1930's, p. 65.
- 33 Ibid., p. 131.
- 34 Ibid., p. 79.
- 35 Ibid.
- 36 Ibid.
- 37
- 38 Haskin, Leslie L. et al. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, (Copied and indexed by Nina L. Williamson and Richard R. Milligan for the Linn Genealogical Society.) Linn Benton Genealogical Services, Albany, Oregon, p. 37.
- 39 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, p. 22.
- 40 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 10.

- 41 Ibid.
- 42 Ibid.
- 43 Ibid.
- 44 Ibid.
- 45 Ibid.
- 46 Ibid.
- 47 Ibid.
- 48 Anon, "Minutes of the Session of the Church of Brownsville", Manuscript on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, subject folder-"Religion", 1957, n.p.
- 49 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 10.
- 50 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, p. 74.
- 51 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, p. 37.
- 52 Ibid.
- 53 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 11.
- 54 Haskin, Leslie, L., Manuscript on the history of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church on file Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, subject folder - "Religion", nd, n.p.
- 55 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 11.
- 56 Ibid.
- 57 Ibid.
- 58 Haskin, Manuscript on the history of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church, n.p.
- 59 Ibid.
- 60 Ibid.
- 61 Ibid.
- 62 Linn County Deed Records.

- 63 Williams, Edgar, Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties, Edgar Williams and Co., San Francisco, 1878, p. 58.
- 64 Ibid.
- 65 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 14.
- 66 Ibid.
- 67 Hainline, Patricia, "Assembly of God Church", in the Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 5, 1987.
- 68 The Brownsville Times, December 3, 1909.
- 69 Boag, Peter Guy, The Calapooian matrix: Landscape and experience on a western frontier, Doctoral Dissertation, University of Oregon, 1988, p. 191
- 70 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, pg. 17.
- 71 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, p. 42.
- 72 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 1.
- 73 Ibid.
- 74 Ibid.
- 75 Ibid.
- 76 Haskin, History of Linn County, p. 65.
- 77 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, p. 30.
- 78 Ibid.
- 79 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 1.
- 80 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p. 2.
- 81
- 82 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, pg. 39.

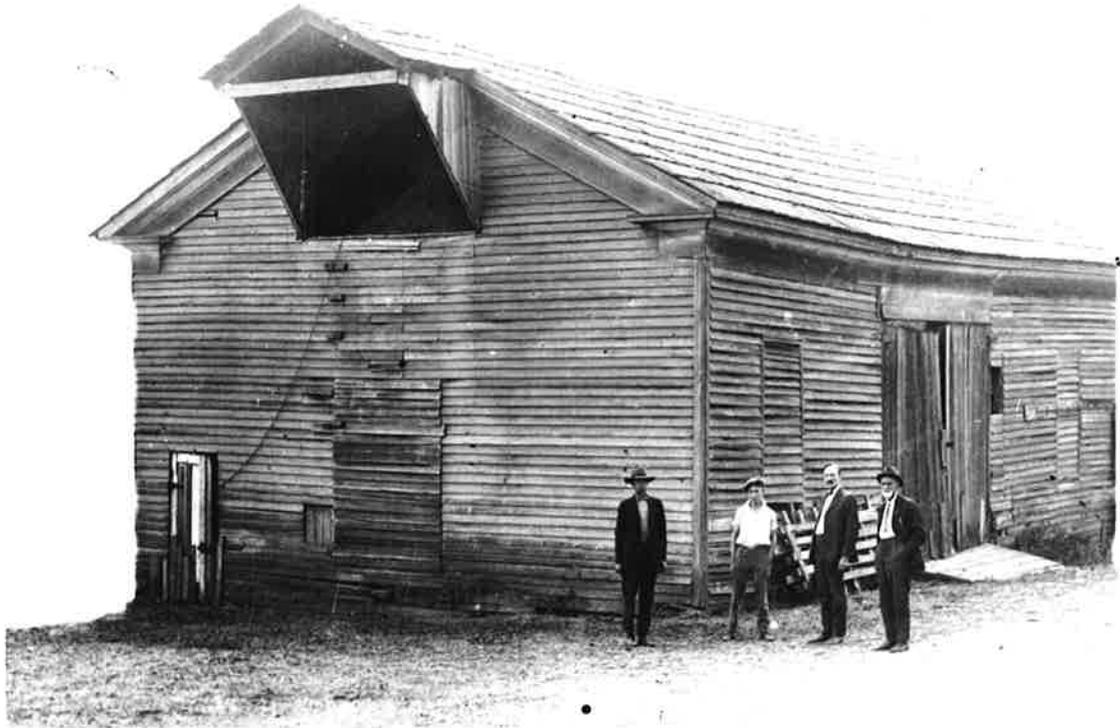


FIGURE 1: Pleasant Butte Baptist Church after its conversion to a barn (W.P.A. Photograph, State Library).



FIGURE 2: McKinney Meeting House after it was relocated and converted to a store (W.P.A. Photograph, State Library).

THEME: EDUCATION

SCOPE: 1840'S-1950'S

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

The first schools in Linn County were organized in the latter part of the 1840's, shortly after the arrival of the first Euroamerican settlers into the region. These early schools pre-date the establishment of government organized school districts. In addition to their educational function, schoolhouses were often the location of the first religious services in the area. Community social events were also held at local schoolhouses. In Linn County, the first court session which organized the County government was held at the Calapooia schoolhouse, which was located in the project area.

Little is known about the early history of schools in the project area. The earliest school is believed to have been the Spalding School. This school was established by local Presbyterians. Rev. Henry Harmon Spalding, the well-known Presbyterian missionary, came to the Calapooia after the Cayuse uprisings at the time of the Whitman massacre made it too dangerous for him to remain at his Idaho mission. Upon his arrival, he complained that there were no good lands left to settle. James Blakely and Hugh Brown moved their claims apart to give him a fertile claim situated between their claims. School was taught in a log cabin located on Spalding's claim approximately one mile east of what was to become Brownsville.¹ First established in 1848 or 1849, this school was commonly referred to as Spalding's Schoolhouse. Spalding had two schoolhouses: the first schoolhouse was a log cabin while the second schoolhouse, which appears to have been built sometime in 1852 or 1853, was constructed of sawn lumber.² Spalding taught school for only a few years. The second teacher at the Spalding schoolhouse was Edna Whipple (later Mrs. George Colbert).³ Rev. Robert Robe, a Presbyterian missionary who stayed with Rev. Spalding upon his arrival in Oregon in 1852, was also a teacher at the Spalding schoolhouse.⁴ Possibly the second Spalding schoolhouse, the sawn lumber schoolhouse, was located in what is today the south part of Brownsville.⁵ Since the town of Brownsville (on the south side of the river) may have been "laid out" in 1853, it would have been a more desirable location for a school built in 1852 or 1853. Government surveyors recorded a school building in Brownsville in 1853.

Another early school was taught in the parsonage of the Methodist minister Father John McKinney.⁶ McKinney's claim was located south of the river just west of Alexander Kirk's claim. In 1853, Edna Whipple (Colbert) was teaching there (year estimate based on her wedding date).⁷ The church and parsonage were located approximately one mile west of Brownsville. The church was situated on the east claim line of the McKinney Donation Land Claim.⁸

According to Leander Kirk, son of Alexander Kirk, born in 1847,

"After the McKinney schoolhouse there was another school below town where a rock bridge used to span the slough. After that they moved the school to the east end of town. That was on the South Side. At that time there was no town north of the river."⁹

The date for the establishment of this school is uncertain but reference was made to a school in this general location in 1853.¹⁰ Field notes of government surveyors completing the township surveys note the location of a school at N21 3/4 degrees E from the center point of the west line of Section 6, T14S, R2W.¹¹ This school, which was located in what is now Brownsville, predated the establishment of the Brownsville school district in 1855. In connection with the above discussion, Fred Lockley noted that Mr. George Armitage took a ship for Oregon City, where he arrived on December 16, 1848. He spent the winter of '48-49 where Brownsville was later located. He was employed in building a schoolhouse in Brownsville.¹² Armitage later settled in the Coburg area. The schoolhouse he built could have been Spalding's schoolhouse or may have been one of the above schoolhouses.

One of the two schoolhouses mentioned above, the one near the slough and the one built at the east end of town, may have been the "Schoolhouse on the Calapooia" referred to in the county court journals as having been the place where the first meeting to form the county government was held. The Spalding schoolhouse is generally believed to have been the "Schoolhouse on the Calapooia". In referring to building a school in 1849, Mr. Armitage said he built a school where Brownsville was later located. The Spalding schoolhouse, located one mile east of

town, does not fit that description. Of course Mr. Armitage could be speaking very generally. A son of Alexander Kirk noted that, "The first meeting of the County Court of Linn County was held under a large maple tree near my grandfather's old house." The schoolhouse observed by the surveyors in 1853 was close to the Kirk house.¹³

Mrs. Luella Colbert Robnett, daughter of the teacher Edna Whipple Colbert, noted that her mother ... "first taught a public school at the McKinney meeting house but later there was a demand for advanced classes and she taught at a private school in South Brownsville in her own home."¹⁴

Another early schoolhouse was known as the McHargue school situated on the James McHargue Donation Land Claim located in T14S, R2W, Section 15. Although the date for the establishment of the McHargue School is uncertain, the fact that the school was a log building indicates it was built at an early date. The school was located on a road linking the Finley Mill and the upper Calapooia to the town of Union Point.¹⁵ The school building was still being used in ca.1870 since Mrs. Luella Colbert Robnett, born in 1855, eventually taught there.¹⁶ Bert Templeton tore down the log building after it was no longer used.¹⁷ McHargue School was later known as Cedar Wilds and still later as Courtney Creek School (see below).

The Finley School was another early school in the area. Located just to the east of the current project area, this school was the predecessor of the Brush Creek School District #3. Organized in 1853, it was the first public school district organized on the Calapooia.¹⁸

There was a school built at the base of Cochran's Butte in 1853.¹⁹ Known as Cochran's schoolhouse, this was the schoolhouse in which the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church was organized.

One institution of higher learning was established in the project area (outside of the Brownsville city limits). Shortly after the United Presbyterian Church was established at Union Point in 1852, Rev. Wilson Blain and the membership decided to establish a college at Union Point. The Oregon Territorial Legislature granted a charter to the Union Point

Academy in 1854.²⁰ Run by the church, the academy was to serve as a training ground for Presbyterian ministers.²¹ The academy was located in a special building distinct from the church or a private residence.²² The success of the academy largely depended on whether or not Union Point would become the county seat. By 1856, Albany was the clear victor in this contest and Rev. Blain was expressing doubts about the future of the academy. In 1856, there were between 15-35 students attending the academy. By 1857, that number had dropped to between 12 and 25. There were no funds to run the school and the school's principal resigned.²³ In 1858, a petition to the legislature asked that a certain part of the town plat be declared legally vacated.²⁴ The institution was reincorporated into Albany Academy, later called the Albany Collegiate Institute which became the nucleus for Albany College in 1866.²⁵ Albany College was the forerunner of Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

In 1855, the first public school districts were established in the project area. Those organized that year were #49 Center (a.k.a. as Centre or Central), #50 Kirk, #51 Powell, #52 Brownsville, #53 Union Point, and #54 Courtney Creek.²⁶ Schools were not supported by taxation but rather by popular subscription. "Each pupil was supposed to contribute a certain estimated sum, but the prosperous citizens subscribed liberally, and more than their family apportionment, in order that poor children might receive the benefits of the school."²⁷ Lewis Tycer, born in 1857, attended the McHargue School. He noted that, "the people of the neighborhood would hire a teacher and the pupils would pay according to the number of days attended by each child. You paid for just the days on which you attended school."²⁸

The district school terms were very short, often lasting only two to three months.²⁹ When Mr. Tycer and his brothers and sisters attended the McHargue schoolhouse, they...

"crossed the river by means of a "Big Drift" which was situated on the "Gray Rice" farm, we then circled around to the James McHargue home, and so reach the schoolhouse. It was necessary to go a considerable distance out of our way because of high water in the sloughs and creeks. However, the school term usually lasted only

about three months in the spring when the creeks and rivers had gone down enough to make it safe for the children to cross." ³⁰

The locations of the first district schoolhouses have been researched by using a number of types of documents. Usually, the siting of a school in the third quarter of the 19th century did not involve a legal land transfer and therefore the deed records are not always helpful in providing early school locations.

Center School, District #49 (est. 1855), was located in the Bond Butte neighborhood, in T14S, R3W, Section 27. The first schoolhouse was a log cabin.³¹ Redman Pearl, born in 1858, describes the school as;

"...made of slabs, and the benches on which we sat were merely heavy slabs with pegs driven in from below as legs. We had no backs to our seats, and no desks...There were also slab benches arranged around the stove, and when the weather was cold we could move up on the benches arranged around the stove to keep warm. Our school in those days was known as the "Slab Schoolhouse". It is now known as the "Centre School"...Later (probably about 187_) the present schoolhouse was built."³²

In 1872, James and Elizabeth Pearl transferred the title to 3/4 acres of land in T14S, R3W, Section 27 to School District #49.³³ The "present" school referred to above was probably built at that time. This is supported by Marena Michael Fruit, born in 1864, who attended a log schoolhouse at first but later went to the same schoolhouse which was in use in the 1930's.³⁴ The older "slab" school was apparently in the same general location as the second schoolhouse. Mrs. Fruit noted that the 1930's school was the same school she attended but that it was "turned around" and remodeled.³⁵ Center School was also the location of Unitarian Church services in the early years.³⁶ In 1948, Center School was consolidated with School Districts #48 and #50 (Diamond Hill and Kirk).³⁷

In the late 1870's, the Kirk School, District #50 (est. 1855), was located on the land of H.H. Kirk in T14S, R3W, center of Section 10.³⁸

In 1892, land in Section 9 was transferred to School District #50 for "purposes of placing a schoolhouse."³⁹ This schoolhouse is located on the west side of Kirk Road in the middle of the section.⁴⁰ The Kirk School was consolidated with the Halsey School District in 1941.⁴¹

In the 1870's, Powell School, District #51 (est. 1855), was located in T13S, R3W, Section 32.⁴² Powell School was located on Bond Road near the site of Wesley Chapel. By 1930, the location of Powell School had changed to Section 33 at the intersection of the Halsey-Brownsville Road and Keeney Road.⁴³ Powell school was consolidated with Halsey in 1946.⁴⁴

The Union Point School, District #53 (est.1855), was located in T14S, R3W, Section 13 on the Territorial Road, across (to the west) of the Union Point town site.⁴⁵ In 1891, J.M. Long and his wife transferred 1 acre of land to School District #53.⁴⁶ The 1878 atlas map indicates that the school was on this parcel or a nearby parcel for many years prior to the 1891 title transfer.⁴⁷ A new building may have been erected in 1927 or shortly thereafter since a meeting was held to discuss a new building at that time.⁴⁸ District #53 was consolidated with Brownsville in 1948.⁴⁹

School District #54 (est.1855), known as the Courtney Creek School in the 20th century, was probably originally the McHargue School (location previously described). After the McHargue school was no longer used, a one room schoolhouse known as Cedar Wilds was built on a flat near Courtney Creek.⁵⁰ In 1909, the school district purchased one acre of land in T14S, R2W, Section 22.⁵¹ The site of the school was moved to this location on the east side of Courtney Creek Road (date unknown). By 1950, the school was in the same general location but on the west side of the road.⁵² Courtney Creek School was consolidated with the Brownsville School District in 1955, 100 years after its establishment.⁵³

School District #72, Ash Swale, and #28, Warren, were both established in 1866.⁵⁴ According to the 1878 atlas map, there were two District #72 schools: one in the project area in T13, R3W, Section 23, situated in the Powell Hills near the location of the Pleasant Butte Baptist

Church, and one just north of the project area.⁵⁵ There is no deed record for the purchase of the Powell Hill site, but in 1869, District #72 purchased the 1 1/2 acres of land in T13S, R3W, Section 15 (located just outside of the project area).⁵⁶ The 1878 atlas indicates schools in both locations at that time.⁵⁷ At the turn-of-the-century, the school located in Section 15 is referred to as the Fletcher Schoolhouse.⁵⁸ By 1930, only the school located outside of the project area remained.

In 1885, land for the Warren School (est. 1866) was transferred to School District #28 from A.J. Warren and wife.⁵⁹ The location of Warren School in the 19th century is uncertain. The Warren School was located on the southeast side of Warren Creek Road in 1930. This may have not been the original location of the Warren School since the road was not in this location in the 19th century. One of the early teachers in the Warren School was Rev. Robert Robe who had a large sheep ranch in the hills north of the school.⁶⁰ The Warren School was consolidated with Brownsville in 1953.⁶¹

School District #115, Oak Grove was established in 1896.⁶² This district resulted from the division of District #54 (Courtney Creek). In 1897, N.G. Rice transferred the title to 1 1/4 acres of land, in T14S, R2W, Section 10, on the south side of the Calapooia River and the highway between Brownsville and Crawfordsville, to School District #115.⁶³ At the turn-of-the-century, there was a suspension bridge across the Calapooia river to serve the students living on the north side of the river.⁶⁴ Oak Grove was consolidated with Crawfordsville in 1942.⁶⁵

Improved transportation means and networks made the consolidation of schools economical. With the consolidation of districts, many of the rural one room schoolhouses were abandoned.

Prominent Individuals Associated With the Theme of Education

Henry Harmon Spalding: Established what is believed to, have been the first school in the project area and one of the first schools in Linn

County. Spalding was appointed first superintendent of Linn County Schools in 1849.

Edna Whipple Colbert: Early school teacher who taught at Spalding's schoolhouse, McKinney's School, and at several other early schoolhouses in the project area.

Rev. Robert Robe: Presbyterian minister and teacher who taught at several schools in the project area and was a long time teacher at Warren school.

Wilson Blain: Established Union Point Academy which eventually evolved into Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

Edward Geary: Presbyterian minister who also served as an early state school superintendent.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

Previous survey's have identified two resources associated with the theme of education. These resources are the site of the Spalding Schoolhouse and the Henry Harmon Spalding House.⁶⁶ (Further documentation is needed to authenticate its association with Spalding and to understand which portion(s) of the house can be attributed to Spalding.) There is also a marker inventoried at the site of Union Point. The site has not, however, been inventoried.

Resource Types

The following resource types can be associated with the theme of education:

- School
- Academy
- School/site-historic-archaeological
- Horse sheds for sheltering horses of school children

- privy (outhouse)
- well
- hitching post

Discussion

The first buildings erected for school purposes were log cabins. These schoolhouses were built on the same general lines as cabin homes, but being community enterprises, they were larger in size and provided split log benches.⁶⁷ These log schoolhouses, like the dwelling cabins, were soon provided with puncheon floors, glazed windows, and shake roofs.⁶⁸ Early schools known to have been constructed of logs in the project area included Spalding's first schoolhouse, McHargue Schoolhouse, and Center School. With the establishment of sawmills in the region in ca. 1850, schools could be constructed of sawn lumber. The 19th century sawn lumber schoolhouse in this part of Linn County was usually front-gabled, rectangular in form, with horizontal board siding and little, if any, architectural embellishment. Openings were symmetrical with the door usually located centrally on the gable end (Figures 1, 2 and 3). In general, the design of rural schoolhouses constructed in Linn County in the 20th century were more varied. Stylistic elements were frequently added to schoolhouse designs. In the early part of the century, Bungalow and Craftsman elements were popular while in the 1930's and 1940's, Colonial elements were popular. Bell towers were also employed more frequently on late 19th and early 20th century schoolhouses. Window configuration and type also changed in the period shortly after the turn-of-the-century when windows were often placed on only one side of the building. In the 19th century, schools often had 6/6 or 4/4 double-hung sash windows. In the 20th century, 1/1 or multiple, small panes were more common.

Distribution of Resource Types

In the mid-1850's, after local school districts were established, there were approximately two to three public schoolhouses per township. (A town located within the township often provided the township with the greater number of schools.) By the mid-1860's, the number of public schools increased to three to four schools per township. The exception

to this generalization is T13S, R2W in the project area. The terrain of this township made settlement, and therefore schools, sparse.

The locations of all of the school sites in the project area are known. It is very improbable that any of the log schoolhouses have survived. There are numerous references to the location of the site of Spalding's log schoolhouse which was apparently in ruins by the late-1860's. The number of sawn lumber schoolhouses surviving in the project area is not known. The known sites of all of the schoolhouses will be checked on aerial photographs and in the field to determine if any of the schoolhouses are still standing. If no building is observed on the site, a search will be made for other features and landscape elements which may have been associated with the school. Since the sites of early schools may have archaeological value, ground disturbance on the site will also be noted.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

Based on the information provided in the historic context on education, all of the former schoolhouse locations were visited during the reconnaissance. If no structures remained, the site was generally not recorded unless it was a very early school location. A total of 6 resources representing the historic context of education were recorded during the reconnaissance. Only one schoolhouse, the Courtney Creek schoolhouse, remains standing along with its associated privy. Until recently, the horse shed associated with the Union Point school was still standing (currently a pile of lumber on the ground). In general, schoolhouses and evidence of their locations have been completely erased from the landscape. Only the site of the Oak Grove school is apparent from location of several large deciduous trees. Most of the resources recorded were sites which may be important from an archaeological or historical perspective. Previous inventories recorded one resource associated with education--the Henry Spalding House. All surveyed resources associated with the context of education are listed in Table 1. Resource types are enumerated in Table 2.

Sites were located using the 1853 overlay maps. Artifacts were observed at the McHargue schoolhouse site and the McKinney parsonage site. No artifacts were observed at the Union Point site, but vegetation was dense in most site areas. No obvious artifacts were located at the Spalding Schoolhouse site. A fragment of rock, which resembled the rock quarried locally for the foundations and fireplaces of early buildings was located in the general area where the school is believed to have been located. The lack of artifacts visible on the surface may be attributed to the limited artifact assemblage one could expect with a log school building.

RESOURCE EVALUATION

All resources representing the context of education have been evaluated as significant or potentially significant. These determinations were made largely on the early dates of the resources and the importance of the individuals and developments associated with the resources. The exception is the Courtney Creek Schoolhouse. Its significance is based on rarity, architectural integrity, and as a 20th century one room rural schoolhouse, its ability to reflect this aspect of the educational and social history of the area. Sites with archaeological potential such as the McHargue schoolhouse site, the Spalding schoolhouse, the McKinney parsonage site, and the Union point site, may meet Criteria D of the National Register. Only archaeological testing of these sites could verify their archaeological significance. Regardless of their archaeological potential, the Spalding schoolhouse site and the Union Point site are important historic sites. The only standing structure, the Henry Spalding house, has been determined eligible for the National Register.

TABLE 1

Resources Representing the Context of Education

19, 20	Courtney Creek schoolhouse and privy
28	McHargue schoolhouse site
278	Schoolhouse site (Spalding)
295	McKinney parsonage site
348	Union Point townsite

(Previous inventory projects.)

SHPO 323 Spalding House (rear portion only)

Bold indicates resources evaluated as significant or potentially significant.

TABLE 2

Resource Types Representing the Context of Education

Sites = 4
Schoolhouse = 1
Farmhouse = 1 (rear portion of house)

FOOTNOTES:

¹ Haskin, Leslie L., et al. History of Linn County, Work Projects Administration, 1930's, p. 25.

² Ibid.

³ Haskin, Leslie L. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, copied, typed and indexed by Vera Swartz and Richard R. Milligan, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1989, pp. 6-7.

⁴ Haskin, Leslie L. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, copied and typed by Dorothy I. Milligan and Marge Manuma, Linn Benton Genealogical Services, Albany, Oregon, 1985, p. 73.

5

⁶ Haskin, History of Linn County, p. 26.

⁷ Ibid.

8

⁹ Haskin, History of Linn County, pp. 26-27.

10

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Lockley, Fred, "Impressions and Observations of a Journal Man", in The Oregon Journal, Portland, Oregon, June 3, 1931, n.p.

¹³ Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, p. 10.

¹⁴ Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, p. 67.

¹⁵ Haskin, Leslie L. et al. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, (copied and indexed by Nina L. Williamson and Richard R. Milligan for the Linn Genealogical Society), Linn Benton Genealogical Services, Albany, Oregon, p. 92.

¹⁶ Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, p. 68.

¹⁷ Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, p. 92.

¹⁸ Haskin, History of Linn County, p. 126.

- 19 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1983, p. 11.
- 20 Haskin, History of Linn County, p. 131.
- 21 Ibid., p. 131-132.
- 22 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, p. 40.
- 23 Haskin, History of Linn County, p. 131.
- 24 Ibid.
- 25 Ibid., p. 131-132.
- 26 Anon, Manuscript on file Linn Benton Education Service District, n.d.
- 27 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, p. 36
- 28 Haskin, Leslie L. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. V., copied and typed by Richard R. Milligan and Vera Swartz, Richard Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1989, p. 34.
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 Ibid.
- 31 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, p. 17.
- 32 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, pp. 41-42.
- 33 Linn County Deed Records.
- 34 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, p. 17.
- 35 Ibid.
- 36 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, p. 6.
- 37 Anon.
- 38 Williams, Edgar, Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties, Edgar Williams and Co., San Francisco, 1878, p. ?
- 39 Linn County Deed Records.

- 40 Metsker, Charles F. Metsker's Atlas of Linn County, Oregon, Charles F. Metsker, Portland, Oregon, 1930.
- 41 Anon.
- 42 Williams, p. 81.
- 43 Metsker.
- 44 Anon.
- 45 Williams, p. 81.
- 46 Linn County Deed Records, Vol. 41 p. 631.
- 47 Williams, p. 81.
- 48 The Brownsville Times, July 14, 1927, n.p.
- 49 Anon.
- 50 Hainline, Patricia, "Memories" from Bessie Leonard", in the Times Brownsville, Oregon, Wednesday, April 29, 1987, n.p.
- 51 Linn County Deed Records.
- 52 U.S. Geological Service, Topographic Map, Brownsville, Oregon, Quadrangle, 1950.
- 53 Anon.
- 54 Ibid.
- 55 William, p. 81
- 56 Linn County Deed Records.
- 57 Williams, p. 81
- 58 Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 11, 1901.
- 59 Linn County Deed Records, Vol. 28, p. 639.
- 60 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III, p. 75.
- 61 Anon.
- 62 Ibid.
- 63 Linn County Deed Records.
- 64 Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 18, 1901.

65 Anon.

66

67 Haskin, Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, p.

68 Ibid., p.

69 Haskin, Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV. p. 42.

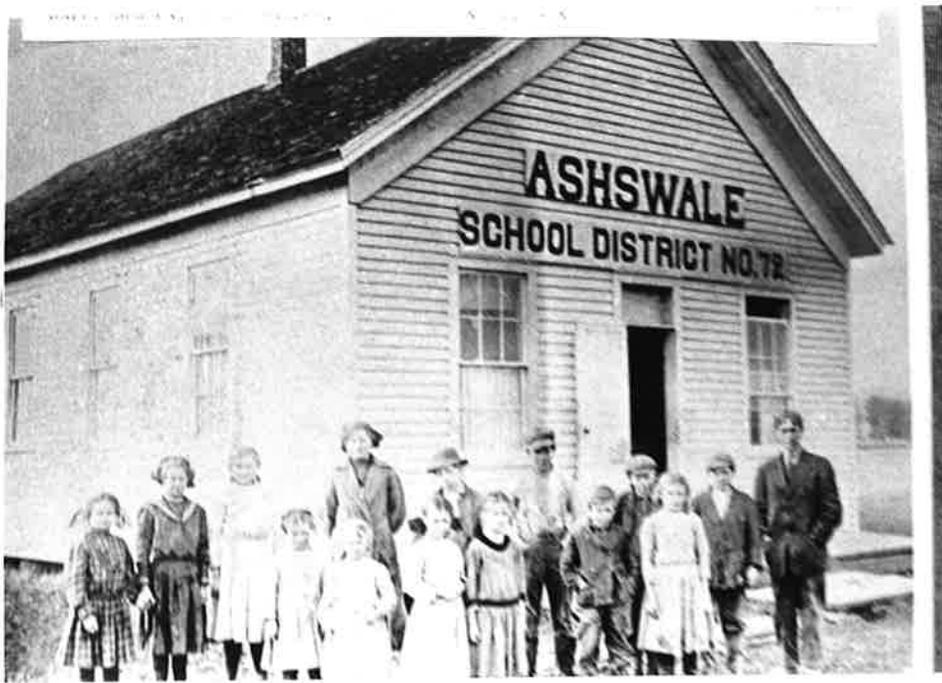


FIGURE 1: Ashswale School



FIGURE 2: Union Point School



FIGURE 3: Warren Creek School
(All school photos courtesy of
the Pioneer Picture Album, Brownsville)

THEME: GOVERNMENT: TERRITORIAL / STATE/ LOCAL

SCOPE: 1849-1940

HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Linn County was established in by the provisional government in 1847. In the In 1848, the first elections were held for the purpose of electing county officials. This early group of elected officials were not effective because almost all of them left for the goldfields of California shortly after the elections. The organization of Linn County government under the territorial government, which was established in 1849, was centered on the Calapooia. A full set of county officials was selected at the first meeting of the county court held in October of 1849 held at the "schoolhouse on the Calapooia". All of the county officers were selected at this meeting, and, with the exception of John McCoy, all resided in the Calapooia region. Irregularly scheduled county meetings took place in the schoolhouse or at Kirk's residence until 1851 when Albany was designated the county seat.

In January of 1851, the territorial legislature passed an act designating Albany, known for several years in the early 1850's as Takenah, as the county seat of Linn County. This designation was unpopular, especially with those located in the Union Point neighborhood (which included the later Brownsville vicinity since Union Point pre-dated Brownsville). In 1855, an act was passed by the legislature authorizing county commissioners to select a site for the county seat near the geographical center of the county. Surveyors hired for this purpose included Brownsville region residents Luther White and H.J.C. Averill. A site referred to as Sand Ridge, located to the north of the current project area, was selected. Although voters chose this site, which was at that time devoid of a plat or buildings for the county seat, this decision was reversed. In 1856, the legislature called for a county-wide vote to determine the county seat question between four Linn County towns -Albany, Sand Ridge, Brownsville, and Lebanon. Albany won by a narrow margin.

**Prominent Individuals
Associated with the Theme of Government**

John Bateman: First county treasurer of Linn County. Collected no taxes but in 1851, he became the first person to pay taxes in Linn County.

Alexander Kirk: One of the first three probate judges in Linn County. He was also an early Brownsville postmaster.

Isaac Hutchins: First Linn County sheriff under the Territorial government.

N.D. Jack: First Linn County Assessor.

H.H. Spalding: First school superintendent in Linn County.

John Dunlap: Elected as Linn County representative to the first Territorial Legislature. He was also selected as one of the first three probate judges in Linn County.

Z.F. Moody: Early settler on the Calapooia who served as sixth governor of Oregon between 1882-1887.

Mary Jane Stevens Moody: Wife of Oregon governor Z.F. Moody.

Wilson Blain: Elected as a Linn County representative to the first Territorial Legislature.

John M. Moyer: Served as the first mayor of Brownsville.

Isaac H. Van Winkle: Served as Attorney General of Oregon from 1920 to 1943.

Oliver P. Coshov: Oregon Supreme Court Justice 1924-1931. Served as chief justice from 1929-1931.

Hugh L. Brown: Member of the Oregon state constitutional convention and State Senator in 1860.

IDENTIFICATION

Previous Surveys

The only resource inventoried thus far in the project area that can be associated with the theme of Government is the Spalding Schoolhouse site. It is believed that the Spalding schoolhouse was the "schoolhouse on the Calapooia" referred to in the first county court journal where the first session of the probate court was held to select county officers. (See education section for a discussion of this issue.) The Alexander Kirk house in Brownsville, inventoried but located outside of the project area, was the occasional site of county court meetings until 1851.

Resource Types

post office
meeting hall
historic site
jail

Discussion and Distribution

Since the county seat has moved to Albany in 1851 and the project area is rural, it is unlikely that governmental buildings were constructed in the project area, resources associated with this theme would be other types of resources, such as farmhouses, that were associated with the above individuals. The site of the schoolhouse on the Calapooia would be an historic site under the theme of government. Since Isaac Hutchins, Linn County sheriff, corresponded with county officials in 1853 and 1854 about pay for keeping prisoners, a "jail" may have been located on his property. The only post office in the project area was located at Union Point in the 1850s. Wilson Blain was postmaster. No standing structures remain at Union Point. In the late 1860's, James Ayers carried mail from Salem to Pleasant Hill in Lane County. He recalled that he served a number of country places no longer in existence. "Usually these post offices were in farmhouses and the farmer was postmaster. South of Brownsville the first office was kept by a man named Clover."

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

No resources representing this context were located in the course of the current project. The Spalding schoolhouse site may or may not have been the site of the first session of the county court. Although the meeting was held at the "schoolhouse on the Calapooia", there is some confusion as to whether this was the school on Spalding's claim or a school in what is now the southern portion of Brownsville. Two resources are associated with individuals identified as important in this context: the Hugh Leeper Brown Barn and the Wilson Blain settlement site.

THEME: LITERATURE

SCOPE: 20TH CENTURY

**Prominent Individuals
Associated with the Theme of Literature**

George A. Waggoner: Wrote the 1905 book Stories of Old Oregon.

Sheba Childs Hargreaves: Author of the book The Cabin at the Trails End published in 1928 by Binfords and Mort.

Frederick Blach: Author of the book Bridge of the Gods.

Distribution

Sheba Childs Hargreaves grew up on the former David McDowell property in the Cochran Creek drainage. George was the son of Ward Waggoner who lived in the "gap" area near the Territorial Road.

Methodology

The locations of both of these author's homes will be surveyed to determine if their houses are still extant.

RECONNAISSANCE FINDINGS

No resources representing this context were located in the course of the current project.

TABLE 1

Cemeteries

Recorded during the reconnaissance phase of the current project.

27	McHargue Cemetery
30	Finley a.k.a. Crawfordsville Oddfellows Cemetery
222	Union Point Cemetery
250	Wigle Cemetery
272	Michael Cemetery
275	Blain Cemetery

**Bold indicates that resource is significant or potentially significant.
One or more of the treatment strategies is recommended.**

TABLE 1

Landscape Features

Recorded during the reconnaissance phase of the current project.

22	Agricultural field
23	DLC line
24	Agricultural field
64	"Maple tree"
209	Witness tree
324	Old growth firs
337	Cedar tree

**Bold indicates that resource is significant or potentially significant.
One or more of the treatment strategies is recommended.**

TABLE 1

Military Related Resources

Recorded during the reconnaissance phase of the current project.

49 World War II viewing shack

**Bold indicates that resource is significant or potentially significant.
One or more of the treatment strategies is recommended.**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Anon, Manuscript on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, subject folder - "Brownsville Houses", nd.
- Anon, Manuscript on file Linn Benton Education Service District, n.d.
- Anon, "Memories' "Trees", on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, subject folder - "Brownsville", nd.
- Anon, "Minutes of the Session of the Church of Brownsville", Manuscript on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, subject folder - "Religion", 1957.
- Anon., "Opportunity Awaits You in Linn Co., Oregon: The Garden Spot of the Willamette Valley", 1928. (Promotional brochure on file Special Collections, University of Oregon Library, Eugene, Oregon.)
- Boag, Peter Guy, The Calapooian matrix: Landscape and experience on a western frontier, Doctoral Dissertation, University of Oregon, 1988.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, December 31, 1920.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, February 22, 1934.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 1, 1931.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 2, 1930.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 3, 1935.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 6, 1922.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 7, 1926.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 7, 1932.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 8, 1925.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 10, 1931.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 11, 1934.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 18, 1934.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 1, 1921.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 1, 1926.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 2, 1920.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 4, 1924.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 9, 1931.
- Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 10, 1930.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 13, 1933.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 14, 1932.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 16, 1931.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 17, 1930.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 21, 1927.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, June 16, 1932.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, June 30, 1922.

Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, September 19, 1929.

Dole, Philip, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley", in Space, Style and Structure: Building in Northwest America, Thomas Vaughan and Virginia Guest Ferriday (eds.), Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Oregon, 1974, pp. 78-128.

Dole, Philip, "Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley", in Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America, Thomas Vaughan and Virginia Guest Ferriday (eds.), Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Oregon, 1974, 209-240.

Dole, Philip, Personal Communication, May, 1990.

Dole, Philip, "The Rural Landscape", in Space, Style, and Structure: Building in Northwest America, Thomas Vaughan and Virginia Guest Ferriday (eds.), Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Oregon, 1974, pp. 130-140.

Fullagher, Charles, Personal Communication, 1990.

General Land Office Donation Land Claim Maps-T14S, R2W Willamette Meridian; T13S, R2W Willamette Meridian; T13S, R3W Willamette Meridian; T14S, R3W Willamette Meridian, 1858.

General Land Office Survey Maps-T14S, R2W Willamette Meridian; T13S, R2W Willamette Meridian; T13S, R3W Willamette Meridian; T14S, R3W Willamette Meridian, 1853.

Hainline, Patricia, "Assembly of God Church", in The Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 5, 1987.

Hainline, Patricia, "Bits & Pieces: A 1914 Grad Answers, and Picnic Postscript", in The Times, Brownsville, Oregon, Weds. June 24, 1987.

Hainline, Patricia, "Early Central Linn Roads", in The Times, Brownsville, Oregon, March 11, 1976.

Hainline, Patricia, "Early-day Trails of Linn County", in The Times, Brownsville, Oregon,

- Hainline, Patricia, "Memories" from Bessie Leonard", in The Times Brownsville, Oregon, Weds. Apr. 29, 1987.
- Hainline, Patricia, "Sawmills on the Calapooia", in The Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 21, 1986.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al. History of Linn County, Work Projects Administration, 1930's.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al., Linn County, Oregon Pioneer Settlers: Their Firwood Churches and Their Builders, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1983.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al., Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. I. (Copied and indexed by Nina L. Williamson for the Linn Genealogical Society.) Early Pioneer Publications, Albany, Oregon, 1984.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. II, (Copied and indexed by Nina L. Williamson and Richard R. Milligan for the Linn Genealogical Society.) Linn Benton Genealogical Services, Albany, Oregon.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al. Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. III. Copied and Typed by Dorothy I. Milligan and Marge Manuma, Linn Benton Genealogical Services, Albany, Oregon, 1985.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al., Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. IV, Copied, typed and indexed by Vera Swartz and Richard R. Milligan, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1989.
- Haskin, Leslie L., et al., Pioneer Stories of Linn County, Oregon: W.P.A. Interviews, Vol. V., Copied and Typed by Richard R. Milligan and Vera Swartz, Richard R. Milligan, Albany, Oregon, 1989.
- Haskin, Leslie L., "Interview with Albert G. Waggener", Oral History Interview Collection. Federal Writer's Project, WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION, Photostatic copies on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM.
- Haskin, Leslie L., "Interview with Leander Kirk", Oral History Interview Collection. Federal Writer's Project, WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION, Photostatic copies on file Brownsville Community Library, Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM.
- Haskin, Leslie, L., Manuscript on the history of the Pleasant Butte Baptist Church, on file Amelia Spalding Brown HISTORY ROOM, subject folder - "Religion", nd.
- Lafayette, Ed, Personal Communication, 1990.
- Linn County Deed Records.

- Lockley, Fred, "Impressions and Observations of a Journal Man", in The Oregon Journal, Portland, Oregon, June 3, 1931.
- McKinney Picture Gallery, Miscellaneous information taken from labels of photographs on display.
- Metsker, Charles F. Metsker's Atlas of Linn County, Oregon, Charles F. Metsker, Portland, Oregon, 1930.
- Mullen, Floyd, The Land of Linn, Dalton Printing, Lebanon, Oregon, 1971.
- Oregonian, Portland, Oregon, Friday, September 3, 1886.
- Polk, R.L., Oregon, Washington, and Alaska Gazeteer and Business Directory 1901-02. R.L. Polk and Co. 1901-02.
- Polk, R.L. Oregon and Washington Gazeteer, R.L. Polk and Co., 1913-1914.
- Polk, R.L., Polks Oregon and Washington State Gazeteer and Business Directory, R.L. Polk and Co., 1891-1892.
- Shipley, Charles, Personal Communication, August 8, 1990.
- Speulda, Lou Ann, "Oregon's Agricultural Development: A Historic Context, 1811-1940." Manuscript prepared for the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office, 1989.
- "Take a Walk: A Brief History and Self-Guided Tour of Brownsville", Linn County Museum Friends, Brownsville, Oregon, n.d.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 7, 1903.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 9, 1912.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 28, 1903.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, August 30, 1901.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, December 3, 1909.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, December 26, 1919.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, December 31, 1909.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, February 23, 1912.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 1, 1903.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 2, 1920.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 6, 1922.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 8, 1925.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 11, 1901.

- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 18, 1901.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, January 25, 1901.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 14, 1927.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, July 21, 1926.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, June 7, 1912.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, June 24, 1904.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, March 14, 1913.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, November 1, 1912.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, October 2, 1903.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, October 9, 1903.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, October 11, 1912.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, September 5, 1902.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, September 18, 1903.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, September 20, 1912.
- The Brownsville Times, Brownsville, Oregon, September 25, 1903.
- Twelfth Census of the United States, Population Schedules, Brownsville Precinct, Linn County, Oregon.
- United States Census Records, Linn County, Oregon, Schedule 2, Productions in Agriculture, Brownsville Precinct, 1880.
- United States Census Records, Linn County, Oregon, Schedule 3, Productions in Agriculture, 1870.
- United States Census Records, Linn County, Oregon, Schedule 4, Products of Industry, 1870.
- United States Census Records, Linn County, Oregon, Schedule 5, Products of Industry for the Year Ending June 1, 1860.
- United States Geological Service, Topographic Map, Brownsville, Oreg. Quadrangle, 1950.
- Williams, Edgar, Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of Marion and Linn Counties, Edgar Williams and Co., San Francisco, 1878.

Maps on
file at
SHPO office