National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property
   historic name Fogelbo House
   other names/site number Fogelquist
   Name of Multiple Property Listing N/A
   (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location
   street & number 8740 SW Oleson Road
   city or town Portland
   state Oregon code OR county Washington code 067 zip code 97223
   not for publication
   vicinity

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

   In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: national statewide local
   Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

   [Signature]
   [Name]
   05/27/20
   Date
   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

   In my opinion, the property does not meet the National Register criteria.

   [Signature]
   [Name]
   Date
   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification
   I hereby certify that this property is:

   [Signature]
   Date of Action

   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

   [Signature of Keeper]
   Date of Action

   [Signature of Keeper]
   Date of Action

   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
### 5. Classification

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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

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Built circa 1940 by noted contract builder Henry Steiner, Fogelbo is a one-and-one-half story Rustic style house located at 8740 SW Oleson Road in southwest Portland between SW Oleson Road and a forest of protected wetlands. Situated in a suburban setting and surrounded by a residential neighborhood, the Fogelbo House has a well-tended lawn on the west side of the property, fruit bushes and trees to the north, a community lawn for outings and stands of mature firs and other trees to the east, and to the west, is Nordic Northwest, a cultural center built in 2015 that is outside of the boundary of this nomination. The resource boundary is the entirety of the present 1.99-acre tax lot, which includes the Fogelbo house (contributing), one-story garage (contributing), two small storage sheds (non-contributing), and the one-story Hanson House (non-contributing). The 2000 square foot Fogelbo house sits on an uncoursed stone foundation. The ground floor totals 1225 gross square feet (includes exterior walls), the second-floor totals 656 gross square feet, and the total is 1881 gross square feet, not including anything in the basement. Reflective of the Rustic style, the house features a peeled log exterior and reveals many characteristics one associates with the woodworking craft of Henry Steiner. The character defining architectural features are a mortared stone chimney (Photo 6), a horizontal log exterior (Photo 1 & 6), thick-cut cedar-shingle roof (photo 6), long rafters and log ceiling posts (Photo 8), a bentwood latch, slider and casement windows with pegged latches, wood door and window frames with round edges on the inside and outside, corners that are round notched with an ax, one-inch thick pegged oak floor, built-in corner cupboard, bookcases and lamp shelves, curving pole handrails, and a fireplace made of basalt rock (Photo 10). The house is fairly unchanged, though it has had several alterations, including some logs in the late 1960s were replaced in-kind under the windows in the kitchen and living room (the logs replaced were the same Douglas Fir wood and size as the originals), Shutters were added in 1962 (Photo 1 & 3), the deck was rebuilt in 2018 (Photo 3), and the cedar-shingle roof replaced in 2020. In 1956, a small bathroom and bedroom were added in the basement, which was at the time of construction storage for the sawdust furnace. Even though there have been minor alterations, the house’s appearance and building materials remain the same and, therefore, the Fogelbo House retains its integrity.

“Fogelbo” is a Rustic style home that was originally designed and constructed by John and Henry Steiner for Oscar Olson between 1938 and 1940. The Steiners had previously constructed numerous log cabins in the Mt. Hood area and worked on the construction of Timberline Lodge. The Fogelquists purchased the home in 1952 and have lived there ever since.

A. SETTING

Fogelbo sits on 1.99-acres of property that fronts on SW Oleson Road in Portland, Washington County. The primary façade faces northwest and the house is set back 100 feet from SW Oleson Road allowing the house to be framed elegantly with trees and other landscaping (Photo 1). Located in a residential setting, not too far from Highway 217 and Washington Square mall, the house sits within a wooded environment that includes stands of mature firs and other trees. An orchard of various fruits including pears and apples exists to the north of the house and garage (contributing), and numerous native plants and bushes are planted throughout the site. Behind the house in the wooded environment are the two storage sheds (non-contributing) and the Hanson House (non-contributing), which was moved to the site during the Fogelquist’s tenure. The site slopes down slightly towards SE and site drainage leads naturally into a wetland area at the rear of the site.

1 https://www.portlandmaps.com/detail/property/8740-SW-OLESON-RD/W273191_did/
Fogelbo is a one-and-one-half story Rustic style house with a cross-gabled cedar-shingle roof and a mortared-
stone foundation and basement. The first floor of the house features peeled logs that extend up to the top of
the wall plate on all sides, and the half-story features cedar-shingled walls that extend to the roofline above the
plate. The peeled logs are notched at the end corners in such a way that the ends are of varying lengths
beyond the notches, creating a whimsical detail. The majority of the windows are wood with multi-lights and are
surrounded by wood shutters with a tree cut-out in the center of the shutter. The windows in the living room are
slider types, while windows on the second floor are fixed and casement types (Photo 1). The one exception is
the large single-pane window on the rear of the house located in the kitchen (Photo 8). A small stone chimney
protrudes at the intersection of the cross-gables into the kitchen. The rear of the house features a large wood
framed deck and a large stone chimney (Photo 3). Adjacent to the house on the east elevation is a contributing
one-car garage (Photo 17). Most of the exterior wood details including window frames, shutters, and railings
are painted in a red iron oxide colored paint that is still found on traditional Nordic homes.

Northwest Elevation
Within the front gable of the northwest elevation is a smaller front gable mortared stone entry with the original
handcrafted wood door. A three step mortared stone entry porch or stoop leads up to the front door. Two six-
light wood casement windows flanked by decorative wood shutters feature planter boxes below the windows
within the upper gable (Photo 1).

Northeast Elevation
The side entrance to the house is located on the northeast elevation and allows for access between the garage
and the kitchen on the ground level. The northeast elevation includes a shed roof dormer that is centered
symmetrically between sections of the main roof on each side and covers 3/4ths of this elevation. Within the
center of the dormer is a grouping of three windows with single casement windows on either side of the
grouped windows that creates symmetry. The spacing of windows and shutters on the ground floor of this
elevation are not symmetrically placed due to the side entry door. The side entry door is an original custom
wood door (Photo 2).

Southeast Elevation
The southeast elevation is the rear of the house and sits higher above the ground plane because of the sloped
grade of the site. The basement is largely obscured by lattice work underneath the deck. Entry to the basement
is visible, though somewhat hidden, under the large wood framed deck that extends over 2/3rds of the width of
the southeast elevation. Access to the raised deck from the rear yard is from a wood framed stairway at one
end of the deck that is aligned with a rear door into the living area beyond. The large stone chimney dominates
the middle of the elevation and the one-and-one-half story portion of the house dominates the right side. A
large fixed single-pane kitchen window is placed symmetrically on the ground floor and a somewhat smaller
bedroom window stacks symmetrically above on the second floor. The deck railing on the ground floor mimics
a second-floor window railing in materials, color, and spacing (Photo 3).

Southwest Elevation
The southwest elevation is the shortest and least dramatic exterior elevation, as it includes solely the end of
the living room and a staircase leading down from the end of the raised deck. This elevation is the most
symmetrical in the placement of windows and building materials. Two wood casement windows are
symmetrically placed at the end of the living room, and they sit directly over two smaller windows that are set in
the stone wall of the basement below. The cedar-shingled wall under the sloped roof sits over the peeled log
wall of the lower level, which sits over the mortared rock wall of the basement foundation in an orderly and
well-planned manner, (Photo 4).
C. INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The total interior of the 2,000 square foot house is largely constructed of hand-crafted wood. The house is composed of a living and dining area, entry and kitchen on the ground floor, bedrooms on the second floor, and a basement. There are numerous wood framed components that are largely non-structural including the stair-rails, window brackets and shelves. The interior walls are vertical knotty pine boards and the flooring is wide plank wood.

Living Room
From the entryway, one enters into the largest and most dramatic room of the house. This is the one-and-one-half story vaulted living room with exposed peeled log roof joists and flat wood decking in the half-story (Photo 7). The mortared stone fireplace and chimney are a dominant counterpoint to all the exposed wood in this room and the rest of the house (Photo 10).

Dining Room and Kitchen
To the northeast of the living room is the dining area, which is tucked under part of the upper floor and provides better intimacy and scale compared to the adjacent living space. Modest in size, the kitchen is separate from the living/dining areas and is accessed from the dining area at both ends. The kitchen is filled with light from windows on three sides. Wood floor, ceiling, walls, and cabinets dominate the active kitchen space (Photo 8).

Second Floor
The second floor is accessed from an open stairway located near the front entry door in a corner of the living room. One of the most interesting details within the house is the hand carved and bent wood hand rail of this stairway. The stairs are typical Henry Steiner design that uses eight-inch diameter logs sawn in half for treads. Handrails and bannisters are crafted from naturally bent trees and branches that are functional works of art. The stairway leads up to a landing that allows access to the second-floor bedrooms and bath. At the top of the stairs is another beautiful typical Steiner hand railing. An interesting nook protrudes over the stairs. The upstairs consists of a large balcony overlooking the living room and a log railing (Photos 14-16). The balcony measures 19 feet long by 15 feet wide, so is quite spacious. A large built-in storage unit, of which the top can also be used as a bed, is at the far end of the balcony. There are two bedrooms with closets (Photo 15 and a bathroom with bathtub and unique knotty-pine paneled walls (Photo 16). The walls upstairs are all seasoned knotty pine. The balcony and stairs have log beams above them (Photo 14).

D. OUTBUILDINGS

Garage (Contributing) (Photo 17)
The single car garage sits next to, and just northeast of, the main house. The garage is a separate structure that was built at the same time as the house. It measures about 18 feet wide and 22 feet long. The garage is constructed with the same peeled log walls as the house, chinked inside and outside the garage with handmade ¼ round wood, a signature Henry Steiner log chinking technique. The garage has a stone foundation, wood windows, and cedar-shingled roof, similar to the main house.

A rollup garage door has replaced the original hinged doors that are shown in the 1944 exterior photograph (Figure 7). The original garage doors were made of four to five-inch log poles sawn in half and nailed to a hinged door frame, with the peeled log round face, facing the outside to maintain the log house appearance. This is another Henry Steiner trademark. Most builders of this era would use sawn lumber for garage doors. Though the original garage doors are no longer present, the remaining materials and form of the garage still remain, and therefore, the garage retains enough integrity to be considered a contributing building.

Hanson House (Non-contributing) (Photo 18)
A wood framed single story house with attic was moved onto the rear of the Fogelbo property many years ago from the adjacent Hanson property. The house was built circa 1931.\(^3\) It sits on concrete piers above the ground and is approximately 28 feet by 24 feet in size. Though not associated with the historical significance of Fogelbo house, the Hanson House has cedar horizontal lap siding and windows that are wood framed casement and fixed types with multi-paned glass. The doors are solid wood multi-paneled, and the roof shape is a simple gabled type with a steep to moderate pitch. It is currently used for storage.

Sheds (Non-contributing) (Photo 18)
The two small sheds are located between the Fogelbo house and the Hanson house. Both sheds are non-contributing. The first shed building is a modern one-story shed with a hipped roof, slab entry door, and vinyl windows. The second shed building is a one-story shed with a front gable, metal roof, and wood siding.

E. ALTERATIONS

The Fogelbo House and property remain largely unchanged since it was originally constructed. The original deck on the back of the house suffered from wood rot and was replaced in 2018. Current building code required the new deck to be different than the original, which included strengthening and raising the guardrail around the deck, as well as widening of the stairs to make them more accessible. These alterations were done in character with the existing architecture found elsewhere on Fogelbo by adding details such as all the wood components throughout were painted in the original and traditional dark red and cedar lattice was applied to the outside of the structural framing below the deck. Additionally, as previously mentioned, the roof was replaced with cedar shakes in 2020. The building has been well maintained over the years and is in remarkable condition considering its age. Because the exterior and interior remain largely the same as originally constructed, many of the original materials remain, Steiner’s workmanship remains clearly visible, and the character defining features of the house have not been altered, Fogelbo house retains its historic integrity and reflects its Rustic Style architecture.

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\(^3\) Interview with Ross Fogelquist December 4, 2019.
Fogelbo House

Name of Property

Washington Co., OR

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Criteria Considerations

(mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance

1938

Significant Dates

1938, Date of Construction

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Steiner, Henry, Builder

Steiner, John, Builder

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance is 1938, the date of construction.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A
Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

The Fogelbo House is nominated at the local level of significance under Criterion C, for Architecture, for the work of a master builder, Henry Steiner, as a notable example of Steiner's workmanship and craft. The period of significance is 1938, which corresponds with the date of construction. Built by Henry Steiner and his sons, the Rustic style Fogelbo House reflects Steiner's distinct type of Northwestern craftsmanship and architecture. Constructed for Oscar Olson, a Swedish immigrant, Steiner was chosen as the builder because of his Old-World craftsmanship, use of traditional carving techniques, and his northern European-inspired rustic designs. Ownership of the house has stayed within the Nordic community and over the years has become the location for the Nordic community to hold meetings, social gatherings, visits from dignitaries and royalty, and cultural events and celebrations. Ross Fogelquist, the current resident of Fogelbo, is an essential member of the Portland Swedish-American community and has founded and lead several clubs, organizations and societies including Swedish Society Linnea, New Sweden Heritage Society, and Nordic Northwest (formerly Scandinavian Heritage Foundation). The house was one of the first Steiner cabins built outside of the Mount Hood area and was designed for full time occupancy, unlike those in the Mount Hood area that typically were smaller in design (one-story) and intended for temporary use. The Fogelbo House also features distinctive architectural details that differentiate the Fogelbo house from other simpler Steiner designs. Those features include a stone entry, peeled and polished fir log walls, one-inch pegged oak floors, two knotty-pine bedrooms under a cathedral ceiling. Thus, Fogelbo house reflects the best of Steiner's portfolio and remains a significant example of Oregon's Rustic style architecture.

History of Log House Construction and Rustic Style Architecture

The concept of the log house was brought to America by the first Swedish colonists who settled in “New Sweden” in 1638 (or, the present-day Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania). (See Figure 9 for an example of a traditional Swedish log home). Around the middle of the nineteenth century, log construction spread throughout the West as fur traders, metal prospectors, and settlers migrated to the west. At this same time, the popularity of log cabin construction declined in many parts of the country with the development of wooden balloon frame construction. Despite this new building method’s popularity, log construction continued, particularly as wealthy Americans sought rustic vacation retreats. Natural materials, including wood shingles, stone, and log with its bark retained, characterized the Rustic style that paid tribute to Swiss chalets, traditional Japanese design, and other architectural examples focused on harmonizing with nature.4

In the West, the Old Faithful Inn (1903), in Yellowstone National Park embraced the Rustic style and cemented it as a national style. Each of the derivations of the style frequently had log exterior walls, either peeled, hewn or left with bark on. In addition, shakes, stone chimneys, and multi-light windows were common. The style thus largely continued until the 1930s and 1940s as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built in this style many cabins, visitor centers, and maintenance sheds across the country in various Federal and State parks.5

The high point in the development of Rustic design occurred in the late 1920s and spread throughout the nation during the work-relief programs of the New Deal Era. Character-defining features of rustic architecture include: Native materials, architectural simplicity reminiscent of pioneer craftsmen, implied association with the landscape, exposed log construction and structural members, stone foundations and fireplaces, handcrafted details based on the Arts and Crafts influence.6

6 National Register of Historic Places, Doriot/Rider Log House, Tigard, Washington County, Oregon, National Register # 08000554, pg. 9.
In Oregon, Henry & John Steiner exemplified Rustic style construction using local materials. Henry Steiner was influenced by Swiss immigrant, Suzette Franzetti, who hired him to construct his first cabins on Mt. Hood at a chalet-style resort. From Steiner's experience building and constructing numerous cabins, several key distinguishable features defined his typical log construction:

- Floor plan footprint made of single or multiple rectangular shapes
- Log walls up to the roof plate for one story structures, with wood framing above for end walls or second story portions
- Gable roofs are used throughout, with roof pitches of 8/12 to 12/12 to shed rain and snow
- Cedar roof shakes that extend out beyond the walls below
- Stone foundations and chimneys using locally obtained materials

Henry Steiner

The fifth of ten children, Henry Steiner was born November 29, 1877, in the rural community of Erlenbach, Bayern (now Bavaria), Germany to Jacob George Steiner and Margaretha Schwein. Living on a small farm, which supplied them with many of their needs, Jacob made wooden shoes while Margaretha spun flax and wove linen. In September 1882, Jacob and Margaretha, with their six children, boarded the S.S. Sailer in Bremen, Germany. They arrived in New York on September 20, 1882, traveled to San Francisco and then to Oregon City by train. In Oregon City, they were met by Fred Moehnke, who took them the eight miles from Oregon City on a three-hour journey to Hoff (now Beavercreek) where the minister and several families were waiting at the church to meet them. They obtained 80-acres of land with a small cabin and garden spot, and began life anew in America. Four more children were born to Jacob and Margaretha. By 1910, they had moved to Oregon City.7


Locally, log cabins had gone out of style for private residences when Henry Steiner began building his cabins in the late 1920s. In the Mount Hood area, log cabins had been common in the settlement period of 1845 – 1900. The availability of sawn lumber throughout the area after 1900, however, was in such abundance that most homes and commercial structures were constructed of sawn lumber. The circumstances as to why Steiner built that first log cabin in 1925 are unknown, but for the next 27 years he only built log structures in the Rustic style. During this period, only one other builder was building log structures on Mount Hood, William Lentz, who built several restaurants and at least two homes using larger logs than Steiner used. Steiner’s workmanship was well known in the Mount Hood area. In fact, during construction of the National Historic Landmark Timberline Lodge the builders needed someone to use a broad axe and hand hew six enormous Ponderosa Pine logs. Each log was 50’ long and 60” diameter at the base. Henry Steiner agreed to shape these logs into hexagons for $25.00 per log. He also requested that five laborers be assigned to assist him. He did all the shaping work himself and just had the laborers turn the logs as he worked. This is just one of many examples of Steiners skill and notoriety as a master craftsman.

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 Generally, private property owners hired Steiner to build a log cabin on their land. These owners were either employed locally and needed an economical home, or they wanted a vacation cabin and were looking to save money by using logs and rocks found on site or nearby. Typically, negotiations with Henry for the construction of a cabin were short and to the point. He would ask the owners a few questions and begin to design the cabin on a piece of butcher paper. He wanted to know things such as how many bedrooms were desired, if indoor plumbing was planned and if so, would they want a bathtub or shower. He assumed a fireplace would be included and garages were another option. Armed with this information and site conditions, including how many trees and rocks were on site, Henry would produce a basic drawing of the cabin floor plan. He would orient the cabin on the lot so that the front door and porch had the best view. He routinely disregarded the lot lines and street access, unlike today where houses are set square with the street and property lines. Henry would add a few more details to his drawing, including notes on construction such as “horizontal logs, or vertical logs”. Lastly, he would note the price and sign and date the drawing, which in effect became a contract. One such drawing that has survived is for a two-bedroom cabin with a shower and the price is $850.00. This 1938 cabin would not be wired for electricity as commercial power was not yet available. The price would be slightly higher if logs from off-site needed to be acquired. The logs less than 12” in diameter that Henry liked to use were available to him for $1.00 per tree. These small trees had been left standing on land that had been logged and all the large trees harvested.

Each cabin built by Henry Steiner was different than the others and each had its own unique floor plan and interior and external finishing. While each cabin was unique, Steiner did begin from four different styles of cabins: traditional horizontal logs, vertical logs, box style with board and batten siding, or a combination of the three that is known as the “Steiner Style Combination.” His horizontal logs were always less than 11” diameter, fitted tightly, needing minimal chinking between logs, but chinked inside and out with two-inch quarter round made on site. His use of vertical log siding is unique and the subject of much debate by owners and restoration contractors. This siding is made by sawing an 8” x 8’ log in half vertically and nailing this half log to a 2” x 4” frame. The same half logs are used on the interior but offset from the exterior logs to stagger the joints. The issue with vertical log siding is deterioration from moisture near the bottom and the problem with repairing such damage. Rotten horizontal logs can be replaced as needed, but with vertical log siding an entire wall might need to be replaced when only the bottom 12” – 18” might be rotten. The box style with board and batten siding inside and out was used on smaller cabins. Starting with a 2” x 4” inch frame, rough sawn 12” boards were nailed vertically to the frame. Two-inch battens were nailed over the joints between the 12” boards. These boards and battens would have been purchased from a local sawmill. These cabins usually have all the other Steiner Architectural Features found in other Steiner cabins. The last style, which we refer to as the Steiner Style Combination, uses siding elements from the previously described styles in various combinations on the same structure. The most significant Steiner Cabins use horizontal logs for the main structure, with vertical logs on a wing addition, cedar shakes are sometimes used as siding in gable ends. On a few large cabins, the front entry room has exposed basalt rock walls. The various siding styles were always employed in an aesthetic manner.

Steiner began his work in Clackamas County in 1923 and 1924, when he worked for the county building wing dams. These dams were used to control floodwaters after unusually heavy rains during this period. During the 1920s, the Steiner family lived across the road from what is now the Oregon City Golf Course. John Steiner, Henry Steiner's son, reported that Mr. and Mrs. Steiner lived in a rental near the Brightwood store. In 1925-1927, Steiner began building in the Brightwood area, and in 1927, they moved to Brightwood where they remained until their deaths. Henry and John, according to Lloyd Musser, curator Mt. Hood Museum, built between them 93 documented cabins, two churches, and eight United States Forest Service summer homes. Ruth Mullen says, “some eighty Steiner cabins are in the Mt. Hood area, though there are a few in southwest Washington and Rockaway Beach.”

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9 John Steiner, Recorded Interview w/ Vikki Williams, May 1992; Clackamas County Cultural Resource Inventory, Henry Steiner Context Statement.
10 For additional information, see https://mthoodmuseum.org/steiner-cabins/.
Henry Steiner, a master builder, made his signature cabins out of native materials using hand tools only, and a person can recognize them by their signature aspects such as the peeled and polished logs, hand-hewn cedar-shakes, the sunburst gable, basalt rock fireplace, arc-sharped front, and many other handcrafted features, such as a door made of a split curved tree, and a gnarled tree root used for a front door handle. Steiner’s intent when making his signature cabins was to create functional and economically assembled homes. However, many of his cabins are what one might imagine if you asked how a storybook “cozy cabin in the woods” might appear. Jack Bookwalter calls “the Steiner cabins magical.” David Rogers, a historic preservationist, says, “[John] was using utilizing native materials and did it in such a way that was respectful but in a very simple form.” Linny Adamson, a Mount Hood Steiner cabin owner, hopes people will preserve the Steiner legacy and appreciate the craftsmanship that went into the Steiner cabins. Janet Eastman writes in the Oregonian, “You won’t find anything as handcrafted, sustainable and storybook appealing as a Steiner cabin.” The logs they used in construction came from trees felled at the site, and usually left to age one year. Jack Bookwalter writes, “In constructing the house, the Steiners would take each log and stack it with the split side down so that no rainwater would collect in the split.” Henry passed away in 1953.

As early as their teenage years, John and Fred, his younger brother, worked for their father and learned from him how to construct buildings from logs, rocks, and bricks. John Steiner left high school as a sophomore to work with his father, who taught him old-world woodworking skills. John spent four years in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific Theatre, and in 1945 returned to his Brightwood home to resume his craft building log cabins. One of his specialties was his “impeccably crafted stone fireplaces,” says Lloyd Musser. “John could do amazing things with his fireplace creations.”

John Steiner helped his father Henry Steiner build the Fogelbo house that Ross Fogelquist lives in. Jack Bookwalter writes, “The most famous Steiner not on the mountain, however, is ‘Fogelbo’ in the Garden Home area of southwest Portland.” Henry Steiner was chosen as the builder because of his Old-World craftsmanship and his northern European-inspired rustic designs, not unlike structures found in Scandinavia. Constructed for Oscar Olson, a Swedish immigrant, the house has long had a connection to the Swedish community and remains an important place for social events and other gatherings connected to the retention of Swedish heritage. The Fogelbo house is also significant as a rare Washington County example of the Rustic style of architecture. In 1989, Fogelbo was designated as a historical site by Washington County. John Steiner passed away at age 99 in 2012.

Comparative Analysis

The Steiner Society has assisted the Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum to inventory and document Steiner Cabins. Lloyd Musser, Director of the Mt. Hood Museum since 1998, started working on the Steiner project in 2005. The hope with the project is that through education and awareness, the remaining Steiner cabins will be preserved. The organization held the first Steiner lecture and cabin tour with the assistance of the Architectural Heritage Center and that project continues today. There is a permanent Steiner Cabin exhibit at the museum, the annual tour draws 300 – 400 people every year, and lectures around the metro area are very well attended. Musser credits Nancy Dougherty, an elementary school teacher and a single mother with two sons, for bringing his attention to locating and documenting the Steiner cabins. In 1974 she purchased a cabin suffering from neglect and disrepair, but it did not take her long to realize she had found something special. “She saved the cabin,” says Lloyd. The Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum’s Steiner Cabin Project have inventoried and documented ninety-three cabins, two churches, and eight USFS summer homes that the Steiners built. The Architectural Heritage Center recognized the Steiner cabins, “as a good example of Oregon Rustic architecture.”

12 Interview, July, 2015.
14 Interview, June 18, 2019.
Of the 100 cabins built by Steiner, two are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This includes the Saint John Evangelist Roman Catholic Church near Welches (Figure 14) and the National Historic Landmark, Timberline Lodge, though to date, no Steiner cabin is listed individually in the National Register. Henry Steiner designed and built the Saint John Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in 1937 and he worked on the WPA Timberline Lodge (1936), which today is a National Historic Landmark. The majority of Steiner's cabins are located in or near the Mt. Hood National Forest. Eighty-four of the cabins are on Mt. Hood and 12 additional cabins are outside of the Mt. Hood area (including the Fogelbo House), though many of those are in neighboring communities to the Mt. Hood area. Log Cabins built by Steiner outside of the Mount Hood area include three in Sandy, three in Troutdale (Figures 15 & 16), one in Garden Home (Fogelbo), one in Rockaway Beach, three in Molalla and one in Roseburg (interview with Lloyd Musser December 6, 2019).

Al Steiner states in a letter written in 1992 to Steiner Cabin researchers, “In 1937 I was helping dad (Henry) build a log house in Garden Home. John and Fred (sons of Henry) had one going in Rockaway Beach at the same time.” This letter proves that Fogelbo and the Rockaway Beach cabins were the first homes built outside of the Mount Hood area. Prior to 1937, inventory records indicate Henry Steiner had built 34 log cabins, beginning in 1927. The record indicates an additional 12 cabins were built in 1937 and 1938. Comparing the craftsmanship and designs of the structures built by Henry Steiner during the first ten years of his career, a steady progression of improvement in both craftsmanship and design can be readily noticed. By 1937 and 1938 Steiner had developed all his signature architectural features he is known for today. Thus, Fogelbo and the cabins built later in Troutdale exemplify the very best work of Henry Steiner (Figures 15 & 16). Steiner would continue building log cabins until 1954, at which time he had built 98 cabins and two churches. His work in later years was of somewhat lesser quality due to his age and the desires of the owners who hired Henry to build cabins for them at lowers costs.

Unlike most Steiner cabins, the Fogelbo house has a stone entry (figures 12-17, Figure 16 shows another example of a stone entry), peeled and polished fir log walls, one-inch pegged oak floors, two knotty-pine bedrooms under a cathedral ceiling (see “Housing History”). The typical Steiner cabin is much smaller (one-story) and simpler in design than the Fogelbo House (See figure 10 & 12-17). These cabins are used for temporary stays as opposed to the full-time occupancy of the two-story Fogelbo House. Ross Fogelquist also says the Fogelbo House is only five miles from downtown Portland and, as previously stated, it is a hub for Swedish and Nordic events. No other Steiner built homes can claim that honor.

Fogelbo House Ownership

The original owner of the land was Oscar and Alma Olson. Born in Sweden in 1880, Oscar immigrated to America at the turn of the century. He and a friend, Frank Beers, found employment with the Portland Police Department. According to Beth Orme, granddaughter of Oscar Olson, “Log houses are common in Sweden and Oscar wanted something reminiscent of home.” He knew of Henry Steiner’s reputation for Old World craftsmanship and his northern European-inspired rustic designs. She adds, “No doubt seeing Timberline Lodge piqued their interest.”16 In 1944 Oscar Olson sold the house to Frank Beers.

Ross' father, Charles Fogelquist, bought the house from Frank Beers in 1952. The Fogelquist Family had their roots in the town of Mora, in Dalarna, Sweden. In the 1800s, the Fogelquists were wealthy land proprietors. In 1850, "Bruckdisponet" Magnus Christian Fogelquist bought the “Christinaberg” estate consolidating his other estates in Southern Sweden. His wife, Ann Greta Lyckholm, was from a family of brewers who owned and operated the largest breweries in Sweden through the 1800s.

Magnus and Ann’s grandson, Frederik Christian Fogelquist, immigrated to the United States in 1891. Frederik was a skilled craftsman who constructed furniture and decorative items and he was an active educator at Selah High School for twenty-eight years. He later taught at the Perry Institute in Yakima, Washington. Charles Fogelquist, Frederik’s son, was a forester and, in later years, a chief road engineer for the Bureau of Land

16 Interview with Beth Orme November 29, 2019.
Management in Oregon. Charles’ wife, Jessie Taylor, was a piano teacher for twenty-five years. Charles and Jessie had a son, Ross Fogelquist.

**Swedish Immigration**

Between 1820 and 1920, just over one million Swedes immigrated to America, with the majority of immigrants entering the country following the American Civil War and prior to World War I. Swedes initially largely settled in the Midwest and the Great Plains, and few settled in the Pacific Northwest. *An Oregonian* article says, “The first Swedes in Oregon came to Powell Valley, east of Gresham, in 1875. They were lured by Oregon’s forests, fish-filled rivers and rich farmland, and they brought with them the concept of the log house.” With the completion of the transcontinental railroad and subsequent rail networks connecting Oregon to the rest of the United States, by the 1890s, various Nordic organizations existed in places like Tacoma, Astoria, and the Yakima Valley.17

By the beginning of the twentieth-century, the Swedish community continued to grow in Oregon and by 1910, more than ten thousand Swedish-born people lived in Oregon.18 At the time the Swedish population was the second biggest immigrant group in Oregon, behind the Germans. Swedish communities existed across the state and one way these communities remained connected was through the state’s largest Swedish newspaper, the *Oregon Posten*. First published on December 2, 1908, the newspaper “published information regarding Swedish culture and heritage, promoted Oregon’s Swedish institutions and businesses, and encouraged Swedes to immigrate to the state.”19 Not only was this newspaper an opportunity to stay informed about events in Sweden, but it also provided a forum to discuss issues concerning Swedish Americans.

**Swedish Organizations**

One of the ways in which the Swedish community stayed connected to heritage traditions was through various social clubs and other organizations. The oldest Swedish society in the Northwest was Svenska Broderna (The Swedish Brothers), which was founded as a sick-benefit organization and began in 1888. The organization sought to raise funds for sickness, burial, and other needs. The organization changed its name to Svenska Sallskapet Linnea (Swedish Society Linnea) in 1892 and admitted women to membership.20 Other organizations are Harmoni Lodge #472 founded in 1925, the League of Swedish Societies, New Sweden Cultural Heritage Society chartered in 1989, Swedish Roots in Oregon formed in 1999, Nobel Lodge #184 (Vasa Order of America) chartered in 1911, and the Swedish Women’s Education Association (SWEA) founded in 1979.

**Ross Fogelquist, Current Resident & Nordic Connection**

When Ross Fogelquist, a knight of the Royal Order of the Polar Star and former Swedish consul for Oregon, became a member of the Swedish Lodge, the Scandinavian Club, and the American Scandinavian Foundation in 1974, he brought several Swedish societies together and offered his home as a clubhouse for the local organizations. Fogelbo became the meeting place for New Sweden, and The Swedish Society of Linnea also met at Fogelbo. Because of Ross Fogelquist’s leadership, the Fogelbo house is regarded as a “Pillar of Heritage.” An article in *Nordstjernan* says, “It is the emotional ‘home’ for many Swedish activities in Oregon and southern Washington.” *Dashboard* claims, “Ross Fogelquist may rightfully claim the title of ‘the Father of everything Swedish,’ a kind man with an uncompromising vision of building and maintaining Swedish heritage and culture.” Many Swedish and Nordic events are linked to Fogelbo, such as a fundraising event in support of

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“Trollbacken”, a children's language and culture summer camp, Valborg or Vappu (celebration of spring), Midsummer festivities, Kräftskiva (a classic Swedish crayfish party), Lucia celebrations, and Christmas events.

Many archival treasures are stored at Fogelbo. The house contains one of the largest private collections of Scandinavian antiques in the country. Laila Simon writes in *The Norwegian American*, “Entering the house is stepping into a time capsule. Fogelbo is an homage to folk art and Scandinavian antiques in America.” People visiting Fogelbo will see trunks, clocks, tapestries, copperware, photos, and historic documents. There are lanterns from Ross Fogelquist’s grandfather’s attic, Swedish records playing on an old Victrola, a 200 year-old Danish dowry chest, a 100 year old melodeon, a wooden lingonberry scoop, and a child’s sleigh made in 1878 (interview with Ross Fogelquist, November 28, 2019).

Nordic activities of significance that have occurred at Fogelbo are the following:

- Leonard Forsgren, Honorary Swedish Consul, invited lodges, organizations, and individuals to participate in the international New Sweden cultural exchange. The first organizational meeting was held April 14, 1987, at Fogelbo, the home of Ross Fogelquist. About 30 people attended. Bernhard Fedde presented a brief historical outline of the events leading up to the establishment of the colony and its significance to our American story. Leonard Forsgren explained what the ‘New Sweden ’88’ celebration could be for those in Oregon. The organization continues to hold social and cultural events on the property.

- Fogelbo has been the site of many hosted guests and groups from Nordic countries, especially Sweden. Foreign diplomats, nobility, concert artists, musicians, scientists, writers, composers, folk dancers, exchange students, choirs, and educators have been invited to and have promoted Nordic culture on the property of Fogelbo. Ross Fogelquist hosted the Sundsvall Choir and choral director, Kjell Loona, in 1980; the famous singer and composer Tore Skogman visited the Fogelbo home in 1982; choral director Eric Erikson and the Stockholm chamber appeared at Fogelbo in 1988; Swedish Consul General Peter Hammerstrom and wife were welcomed to Fogelbo in 1993; in 1994 Garrison Keillor and 300 people were guests at the Fogelbo house. Fogelbo has been host to the Haningarna Dancers, the German Choir Liedertafel, opera singer Rolf Bjorling, Swedish Folk Fiddlers (Spelmanslag), and Sir Malcom Frykman, Honorary Swedish Council for Oregon.

- Fogelbo continues to play an active role in Nordic activities, whether the event be a social gathering on the deck, the popular tours of the house, picnics on the lawn, or a venue for various Nordic organizations to conduct their board meetings. Nordic Northwest also hosts many types of events at Fogelbo, which recently include The ABBAgraphs, outdoor film screenings, Nordic holidays like Valborg, and more. Quarterly tours of both the interior and exterior, with Ross leading them himself and speaking on pieces of his extensive antique collection, are held and are open to the public.

- The house has been featured in newspapers, magazines, and on local television. These publications include, *The Norwegian American*, *Nordstjernan*, *Portland Monthly*, *The Daily News*, *The Oregonian*, and more.

- Ross Fogelquist has placed over 500 high school exchange students (many Swedish) in American host family homes. He has opened his home to Nordic organizations, such as New Sweden Heritage Society and Finland Foundation Columbia-Pacific Chapter to hold their board meetings. When he was President of the Nordic Council, the Nordic groups would meet twice a year at Fogelbo to coordinate the schedules of activities occurring in Portland. Organizers of ScanFair, Midsummer, and Vappu (Valborg in Swedish) have held planning meetings at Fogelbo, and his home and grounds were the venue for many Christmas and Midsummer activities. The First Midsummer celebration was held at Fogelbo in 1970. Annual visitors to the home range from 1,500 to 2,000 people.
Fogelbo House
Name of Property

Washington Co., OR
County and State

In 1992, the Scandinavian Heritage Foundation (Now Nordic Northwest) purchased the property adjacent to the Fogelbo House as a permanent location for their Nordic cultural center. This property, next to Fogelbo, offered a perfect opportunity to preserve Nordic culture and promote Nordic activities on the new property as well as at Fogelbo. On October 15, 2014, Ross deeded the Fogelbo house and the two acres of land to the Nordic Northwest.
9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)


Hoofman, Nancy. “Steiner Cabins are livable legacy.” Sandy Profile. 12 October 2000.


“Scandinavian Heritage is securely lodged.” The Oregonian, Southwest Section. April 28, 1998.


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Expires 5/31/2021)

Fogelbo House  Washington Co., OR
Name of Property  County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  1.99
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter “Less than one” if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84: N/A
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is the extent of the tax lot, Tax Lot ID: 1S126AD02200. The location is on the southeast side of SW Oleson Road directly across from SW 89th Avenue.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The tax lot was chosen because of the historic association of the house.

11. Form Prepared By

Greg Jacob, PhD. President, Finlandia Foundation Columbia Pacific
name/title  Chapter & Board Member, Nordic Northwest  date  July 1, 2019
organization  Nordic Northwest  telephone  (503) 747-8005
street & number  1331 NE Parkside Dr.  email  jacobgk@comcast.net
city or town  Hillsboro  state  OR  zip code  97124

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Regional Location Map
- Local Location Map
- Tax Lot Map
- Site Plan
- Floor Plans (As Applicable)
- Photo Location Map (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).
Photographs:
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn’t need to be labeled on every photograph.

Name of Property: Fogelbo House
City or Vicinity: Portland
County: Washington
State: OR
Photographer: Laila Simon

Photo Log

Photo 1 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0001
Ross Fogelquist in front of street facing façade of Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 2 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0002
Close up detail of Fogelbo House. Camera facing South.

Photo 3 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0003
Back of Fogelbo facing the property yard. Camera facing West.

Photo 4 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0004
Close up detail of Fogelbo House. Camera facing North.

Photo 5 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0005
Close up detail of Fogelbo signage on street facing façade. Camera facing East.

Photo 6 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0006
Front Lawn facing SW Oleson Road. Camera facing West.

Photo 7 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0007
Ross Fogelquist inside main living space in Fogelbo. Camera facing South.

Photo 8 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0008
Kitchen internal living space in Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 9 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0009
Kitchen space in Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 10 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0010
East portion of main living space in Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 11 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0011
Interior. Camera facing North.

Photo 12 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0012
Interior staircase of Fogelbo. Camera facing North.
Fogelbo House
Name of Property

Washington Co., OR
County and State

Photo 13 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0013
Interior of kitchen from the Fogelbo living room. Camera facing North.

Photo 14 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0014
Fogelbo Balcony. Camera facing West.

Photo 15 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0015
Interior of main bedroom, second floor. Camera facing Northwest.

Photo 16 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0016
Second floor bathroom. Camera facing North.

Photo 17 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0017
Garage at Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 18 of 18: OR_WashingtonCounty_FogelboHouse_0018
View of the two non-contributing sheds and non-contributing Hanson House. Camera facing East.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation Page 20

List of Figures
(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

Figure 1 of 17: Regional Location Map
Figure 2 of 17: Local Area Map
Figure 3 of 17: Tax Lot Map
Figure 4 of 17: First Floor Plan
Figure 5 of 17: Second Floor Plan
Figure 6 of 17: Site Plan/Local Map
Figure 7 of 17: Historic Photographs, 1944 Exterior Image (Top – SE Facing. Bottom – NW Facing)
Figure 8 of 17: Historic Photograph, 1940 Exterior Image (NE Facing)
Figure 9 of 17: Historic Photograph, 1940 Exterior Image (NW Facing)
Figure 10 of 17: Historic Photograph, 1990 Interior Image (East Facing)
Figure 11 of 17: Historic Photograph, Original Swedish Eco House (inhabitat.com)
Figure 12 of 17: Historic Photograph, Steiner Cabin in Government Camp, OR (onmounthood.com)
Figure 13 of 17: Vintage photograph of Moehnke’s Resort cabin in Government Camp, Oregon
Figure 14 of 17: Church built by Henry in Welches, Oregon – St. John Catholic Church
Figure 15 of 17: Steiner Cabin in Troutdale, OR
Figure 16 of 17: Steiner Cabin in Troutdale, Oregon
Figure 17 of 17: Dancing Bear Steiner Cabin near Brightwood, Oregon
Figure 1: Regional Location Map
Fogelbo House
Name of Property
Washington Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 2: Local Location Map
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**Figure 3: Tax Lot Map**

![Tax Lot Map Image]
Figure 4: First Floor Plan
Figure 5: Second Floor Plans
Figure 6: Site Plan/Local Map
Figure 7: Historic Photographs, 1944 Exterior Images. From the personal collection of Beth Orme, granddaughter of Oscar Olson.
Fogelbo House
Name of Property
Washington Co., OR
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Figure 8: Historic Photograph, 1940 Exterior Image. From the personal collection of Beth Orme, granddaughter of Oscar Olson.
Figure 9: Historic Photograph, 1940 Exterior Image. From the personal collection of Beth Orme, granddaughter of Oscar Olson.
Figure 10: Historic Photograph, 1990 Interior Dining Room Image
National Register of Historic Places
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Figure 11: Original Swedish Eco Log House
National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Figure 12: Steiner Cabin in Government Camp
Figure 13: Vintage photograph of Moehnke’s Resort cabin in Government Camp, Oregon
**Figure 14:** Church built by Henry in Welches, Oregon – St. John Catholic Church
### Fogelbo House

**Name of Property:** Washington Co., OR  
**County and State:** N/A  
**Name of multiple listing (if applicable):**

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**Figure 15:** Steiner Cabin in Troutdale, OR
Figure 16: Steiner Cabin in Troutdale, Oregon
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**Figure 17:** Dancing Bear Steiner Cabin near Brightwood, Oregon
Photo 1 of 18: Ross Fogelquist in front of street facing façade of Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 2 of 18: Close up detail of Fogelbo House. Camera facing South.
Fogelbo House
Washington County: OR

Photo 3 of 18: Back of Fogelbo facing the property yard. Camera facing West.

Photo 4 of 18: Close up detail of Fogelbo House. Camera facing North
**Fogelbo House**
**Washington County: OR**

**Photo 5 of 18:** Close up detail of Fogelbo signage on street facing façade. Camera facing East.

**Photo 6 of 18:** Front Lawn facing SW Oleson Road. Camera facing West.
Photo 7 of 18: Ross Fogelquist inside main living space in Fogelbo. Camera facing South.

Photo 8 of 18: Kitchen internal living space in Fogelbo. Camera facing East.
Photo 9 of 18: Kitchen space in Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 10 of 18: East portion of main living space in Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 12 of 18: Interior staircase of Fogelbo. Camera facing North.
Fogelbo House
Washington County: OR

**Photo 13 of 18:** Interior of kitchen from the Fogelbo living room. Camera facing North.

**Photo 14 of 18:** Fogelbo Balcony. Camera facing West.
Photo 15 of 18: Interior of main bedroom, second floor. Camera facing Northwest.

Photo 17 of 18: Garage at Fogelbo. Camera facing East.

Photo 18 of 18: View of the two non-contributing sheds and non-contributing Hanson House. Camera facing East.