

Oregon Historic Site Form

Five Oaks Site
NW Casper Lane, South of NW Jacobsen,
Helvetia Road
Hillsboro, Washington County

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address: NW Casper Lane, South of NW Jacobsen, Helvetia Road apprx. addr

historic name: Five Oaks Site

Hillsboro vcnt Washington County

current/
other names:

Optional Information
assoc addresses:
(former addresses, intersections, etc.)

location descr:
(remote sites)

block nbr: _____ lot nbr: _____ tax lot nbr: _____
township: _____ range: _____ section: _____ 1/4: _____
zip: _____

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: site height (# stories): _____

total # eligible resources: 1 total # ineligible resources:

elig. evaluation: undetermined

NR status: _____

primary constr date: _____ (c.) secondary date: _____ (c.)
(optional--use for major addns)

NR date listed: _____ (indiv listed only; see Grouping for hist dist)

primary orig use: Natural Feature

orig use comments: _____

secondary orig use: _____

primary style: Not Applicable

prim style comments: _____

secondary style: _____

sec style comments: _____

primary siding: _____

siding comments: _____

secondary siding: _____

plan type: _____

architect: _____

builder: _____

comments/notes: Site of historic meeting location; trees planted c. 16

GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

survey project name or other grouping name: Hillsboro Local Inventory Update 2008 2008

Survey & Inventory Project

farmstead/cluster name: _____

external site #: 113/317
(ID# used in city/agency database)

SHPO INFO FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: _____

ILS survey date: _____

RLS survey date: 7/1/2008

Gen File date: _____

106 Project(s)



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ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Include expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings, and alterations)

Contextual Description:

The Five Oaks Meeting Place is located north of Sunset Highway and east of Helvetia Road in a wheat field. The trees, of which only three stand, can be easily viewed by freeway traffic. Another set of five oaks are sited to the south off of Jackson Road.

HISTORY

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period [preferably to the present])

Historical Significance:

The Five Oaks Meeting Place was host to both Indian and early pioneers. The circle of five large Oregon white oak trees was called by the Indians, Cha-ta-kuin, place of big trees, and was used frequently as a camping spot. It is believed that the Tuality District, of which Washington County was a part, was organized in the grove next to the Five Oaks. This spot was referred to as the Five Oaks by Joe Meek and the Mountain Men, organizers of the first American farming community in the west. Estimated to be from four to six hundred years old, these historic trees witnessed many types of gatherings dating back to at least 1830. The Mountain Men and early pioneers in the area used this area as a social center for Fourth of July picnics, religious revivals, horse races and sessions of the County court. It is told that at one of the Fourth of July gatherings over one thousand Indians and two hundred settlers celebrated together. In later years, when Portland became the trading center, Five Oaks continued to be the stopping place for settlers on their way to Portland to do their trading. Two of the five oaks, located on the original A. Zachary Donation Land Claim, were blown down by storms during the late 1940's. Of the three oaks still standing, one is dead. A living testimonial to both Native American and early white settlement activities, the Five Oaks Meeting Place is a significant historic site for Washington County and the State of Oregon.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

(Check all of the basic sources consulted and cite specific important sources)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Local Library: _____ University Library: _____

Historical Society: _____ Other Repository: _____

Bibliography: Sources Consulted:

Benson, Robert L., State of Oregon Historic Sites and Building, Washington County.

West Union Centennial 1851-1951. Printed by the Hillsboro Argus, p. 28.

Recorded by: McLaughlin, Emde, and O'Brien, Cole, September 1983.