PREPARING FOR "M" DAY: OREGON NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING SITES, 1900-1940

by

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A Terminal Project

Presented to the Interdisciplinary Studies Program: Historic Preservation
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
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Terminal Project Approval Page

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Preparing for "M" Day: Oregon National Guard Training Sites, 1900-1940

This Terminal Project has been accepted and approved in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science degree in the Historic Preservation Program by:

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I. Introduction

Military history in Oregon is an often-overlooked subject despite the state's ample history and historic resources. While in some cases, negative political feelings about the military or its actions have erased sites and history from public memory, this does not seem to be the case with the early history of the Oregon National Guard. Instead, there seems to be a general gap in public knowledge and professional interest in the significant time period stretching from the Spanish-American War to the eave of the Second World War, 1898-1940. This terminal project presents the development of the Oregon National Guard during a portion of this period (1900-1940) from a small state militia to an orderly military force as seen through its built environment. Using the National Register Multiple Property Documentation form as a framework, historic contexts, property types and registration requirements have been created in an effort to aid the Oregon Military Department in future planning and preservation of their historic resources. It is hoped that through this terminal project the true significance of previously unrecognized resources is clarified.

The three goals of this terminal project are straightforward. The first is to supply the Oregon Military Department with useful research and a practical preservation document, in the form of a National Register Multiple Property Documentation form. The second is to bring recognition to an era and area in Oregon history that is largely overlooked. The third and final goal is to fulfill University of Oregon requirements for a Master's of Science in Historic Preservation.

planning, as the creation of such a document can help "establish preservation priorities based on historical significance."[2] In this case, the history of National Guard training from a certain period, 1900-1940, has been thoroughly researched, types of training facilities have been identified and their potential National Register eligibility has been reviewed. As a planning document, the MPD framework is especially appropriate for use by a state agency for preservation planning because it concisely addresses questions that could arise during National Historic Preservation Act Section 106, Department of Transportation Act Section 4f or National Environmental Policy Act review.

The Oregon Military Department is in the process of completing an historic context on the state's armories, documenting the resource type and history. Coupled with that document, this terminal project will present a complete overview of Oregon National Guard resources in the first half of the 20th century.

Definitions

As discussed in the introduction to this project, National Guard history is not a subject many are familiar with. The specialized lingo of the National Guard can make research and discussion unappealing to those uninitiated. Furthermore, the period researched for this project was one of great change in the Oregon National Guard, with name changes, new positions and official

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[2] U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 16B*, 2.

designations. Words that meant one thing in 1880 could mean something a bit different in 1930.

A few of the more nebulous words are discussed below in order to give the reader a head start in understanding a complex and specialized topic. However, more understanding of each concept will come with the reading of the full historic context in Chapter II.

Regular Army

The Regular Army is maintained in both war and peacetime by the Federal government and authorized by Article 1 Section 8 Clause 12 of the Constitution. Unlike members of the National Guard or militiamen, members of the Regular Army are "soldiers first and citizens second," as described by John Mahon in his history of the National Guard.[3] Its Commander-in-Chief is the President of the United States.

Militia

Historically, militias provided eastern states with military support through compulsory military training and service as outlined by the Militia Act of 1792. In Oregon, state volunteer militias were organized by first the provisional government of 1843, and then by the territorial government in 1848. A clear

[3] John K. Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard* (New York: Macmillan Publishers Ltd, 1983), 4.

distinction between militia groups and the National Guard is a general lack of Federal control or influence on militia affairs. Militias were solely state entities.[4]

National Guard

The National Guard is the "inheritor of the militia tradition" in the United States.[5] Importantly, the National Guard is controlled by both the state and the Federal government and is made up of volunteers. The Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard is the state Governor. In this project, the Oregon National Guard is referred to as the Oregon National Guard, the Guard, the National Guard and rarely, ONG.

Army Reserves

Similar to the National Guard, the Army Reserves or Reservists are called to duty by the Federal government when needed. However, Reservists follow a chain of command beginning at the Federal level and not the state.

Adjutant General

For the purposes of this project, The Adjutant General is the head of the Oregon National Guard, but each state and territory also has a TAG. Biennial reports, sometimes called TAG reports or BRAG, from the Adjutant General's Office were submitted to the Governor and the Oregon legislature for approval

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[4] This is not true of today's militias, but since modern militia groups are out of the period discussed in this project a detailed distinction seems unnecessary.
[5] Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard*, 4.

and are a valuable source of information. The Adjutant General can be referred to, somewhat redundantly, as the TAG or the AG.

Commander-in-Chief

While the Commander-in-Chief of the Regular Army is the President of the United States, the Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard is the state Governor. The Governor has the ability to mobilize the Oregon National Guard during state emergencies. The President can call on the Guard for very specific reasons, such as the threat of invasion, rebellion or inability to execute laws. When this occurs the Guard is "in Federal service."

whether they are transferred to the National Guard Reserve or are discharged, form a potential force of partially trained men for use in case of emergency.

During the period covered by this report, it has been necessary to discharge two officers from the active list and one from the National Guard Reserve, pursuant to the approved findings of an efficiency board constituted and operated under federal regulation (N. G. R. 20). Financial discrepancies in official accounts of two of the officers and disobedience of orders and misconduct in the case of the other were the bases of the board's action.

TRAINING

In general, training of all components has materially improved in a logical and progressive manner during the current biennium. Both armory and field training have been conducted along lines indicated in the War Department training objective which, at the present time, has as its ultimate goal a thorough and comprehensive basic training.

Yearly, the National Guard forces of the country are subjected to two rigid federal inspections. Inasmuch as the training of the National Guardsman embraces two phases, army training and field training, federal inspection has accordingly been designed to keep the War Department informed at all times as to the progress being made in each phase. In addition, the Government safeguards its interest by maintaining a force of five officers and five sergeants on duty with the Guard at all times.

The annual federal armory inspection habitually occurs in the early part of the year and the field inspection during the Camp of Field Instruction in June. In each case, special representatives of the War Department are sent to Oregon to conduct the inspection. Just how well our troops passed the scrutiny of the War Department's exacting inspectors is clearly portrayed in the resume of the War Department's official reports which appear in the appendices of this report. The showing made by our troops at camp is particularly gratifying in view of the fact that the true test of military efficiency is the performance of the troops in the field.

There has been no abatement of interest in officers' and noncommissioned officers' armory schools. As indicated in the previous report, our school system has been the subject of praise from the War Department and in many instances has been used as a pattern for other states. Company officers are required to attend school twice monthly and field officers attend one school session per week. Noncommissioned officers attend a weekly school conducted by their unit commanders and once each month attend a consolidated noncommissioned officers' school at stations where more than one unit is located. The subjects taught at these schools range from the basic principles for noncommissioned officers and junior officers to the tactical principles of battalion, regiment and brigade, supply, administration, troop leading and the tactics and technique of the various arms, for the higher command.

Officers' schools are conducted by officers of the Guard and of the regular army who have been selected as instructors by reason of their special qualifications as such.

During the biennial period just closing, this state has sent 13 officers and noncommissioned officers to United States service schools to pursue courses extending from six weeks to three months. Members of the Guard are

detailed by the Secretary of War to attend such schools upon the state's recommendation and while in attendance receive the pay of their grade and transportation from their home stations to the school and return. The expense is borne by the federal government. In one of the appendices of this report will be found a list showing the names of members of the Oregon National Guard who attended service schools during the current biennium with appropriate comment showing the course completed.

CAMP SITES

As proposed in my preceding report, this department, pursuant to its policy of holding field camps of instruction within its state boundaries, made a survey of the entire state with a view to selecting a site suitable for a permanent camp. The site selected is situated in Clatsop county on the seacoast midway between Astoria and Seaside. Its official designation is Camp Clatsop. There are 363.6 acres in the tract which is held under a ten-year lease with an option to purchase at a total cost of $39,225.

Both camps of field instruction held during the current biennium were held at Camp Clatsop. The terrain is admirably suited to such purpose. The ground contours are ideal from the standpoint of so arranging a military camp that it will be attractive and yet conform to the requirements of health and training. Climatic conditions are ideal for training and the water supply is ample and excellent. The center of the camp is a quarter of a mile west of the Roosevelt highway and access to camp is gained by a newly constructed road leading from the Roosevelt highway to the center of camp. This road was built by Clatsop county at a cost of approximately $16,000 after it was definitely ascertained that Camp Clatsop would be selected as the permanent field training ground of the Oregon National Guard.

During the past two years, the War Department has expended the amount of $78,876.15 at Camp Clatsop in the construction of the following installations:

37 Kitchens, complete, 20x24 feet;
20 Mess halls, 22x58 feet, complete with tables, serving counters, water, sewer and electric light systems;
1 Regimental warehouse, 20x77 feet, complete;
1 Camp supply and warehouse building, 60x90 feet, complete with office rooms and storage facilities;
14 Temporary shower bath houses;
24 Temporary type latrines;
3,312 feet of 6-inch water main connecting with the city of Warrenton water system;
5 2½-inch Standard water hydrants;
1 Administration building, 20x48 feet, complete with offices and electric light system.

During the coming biennial period, it is expected that the War Department will expend in excess of $85,000 for additional installations.

It is deemed pertinent to point out at this time that it is the policy of the War Department to build training camps on a modified development program extending over a period of from eight to ten years. Hence, the estimated ultimate cost to the Government in permanent buildings and other installations at Camp Clatsop will be in excess of $200,000.

Figure 2: Biennial Report from the Adjutant General to the Commander-in-Chief, 1927. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General. *Twenty-first Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1926 to October 31, 1928*. Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1928.

The Paid
Salem, Oregon
Permit No. 56

THE
Oregon Guardsman

Camp Dates
June 15 to 29

Down by the
Sad Sea Waves

Volume VII | SALEM, OREGON, MARCH 15, 1927 | Number 3

COAST CAMPS FOR ALL GUARD TROOPS

Infantry Brigade Goes to Clatsop Beaches and Coast Artillery to Fort Stevens

Following is a brief outline of salient features of camp as decided upon by the Commanding General:

Date for all troops: June 15 to 29, both dates inclusive.

Place: Clatsop Plains on the Pacific Coast for the 82d brigade and attached units. Fort Stevens for the 249th Coast Artillery.

Attendance: All officers, noncommissioned officers and privates first class will be required to attend for the full period unless excused by certificate of the surgeon on account of serious illness. Cases of serious illness or death in the immediate family also will be a cause for excuse from such part of the camp as is necessary. Business reasons will not be accepted. The General Staff may decide to apply this same rule to all members of the command on the theory that men who do not attend camps are not active members and should be transferred to the reserve.

Reports from Clatsop Plains indicate that the camp there will be an unusually attractive one in every way. The Commanding General has spent the past week there, making a detailed study of the terrain and is enthusiastic over the camp. Selection of Clatsop Plains was the result of many months of careful study and investigation.

The camp is close to the Pacific Ocean—about one-half mile from the surf. It is protected by two ridges that lay between the line of kitchens and the ocean. The entire tent camp area and maneuver grounds are covered with heavy, grassy turf. There is no sand within a third of a mile of the camp. A small creek, whose banks are covered with small trees, runs through the camp. No mosquitoes or insects.

Weather is cool and balmy during the last half of June with little fog and few rains showing in the weather record of the past 10 years covering that season of the year. Nights and early mornings are chilly. It may be found desirable to equip squad tents with Sibley stoves.

Terrain is excellent for training, consisting of rolling hills and swales, covered with sod. During the past week that the Commanding General was at Clatsop Plains he reports that troops would have been comfortable in a tent camp.

The camp proper is located midway between Astoria and Seaside—nine miles by the highway from either place. Troops detrain with a march of less than half a mile. A new highway will be opened up to the center of the camp for troop movement and supplies.

The attitude of the people of Clatsop county is one of enthusiastic cooperation and welcome. They want to receive the troops with the fine spirit of hospitality that was shown by Medford.

The reason for the change of camp was high cost of railway transportation to Medford. It is most unfair both to Medford and to the Guard to say that the change was made because of Medford's climate. The high dry climate of Jackson county was reflected in the unprecedented lightness of sickness among the troops while we were there. Hot spells were general throughout the Northwest while the Guard was at Medford—and men out in the field living in tents would have felt the heat anywhere in the state. But the nights were always delightfully cool at the Medford camp—and the hospitality of Medford is something every guardsman will always remember and cherish.

Now is the time to begin preparation for camp. There will be no change in the dates. By arranging vacation schedules early, no later hitch will occur. And men, who find that camp attendance is going to impose an exceptional business hardship upon them, should not delay in seeking transfer to the new National Guard reserve.

Further details of the camp will be announced from time to time. The spirit is already abroad of making the 1927 camp the largest and best yet in attendance, training and recreational features.

ARMORY PROGRAM KILLED.

There will be no new armories built during the next two years.

The legislature's heart was in the right place for they voted an appropriation for armories at La Grande and Cottage Grove, to be constructed during the present biennium. It also provided for armories at Astoria and Forest Grove during the next biennium.

The governor's heart was in the right place, too, and it was with considerable reluctance that he was forced to veto the armory construction program for the reason that there were no funds provided for the construction. He did, however, approve the bill providing for the completion of the Silverton Armory and the repair of the Salem Armory.

LIEUT. HELGERSON PROMOTED

Joseph M. Helgerson is now the recruit captain of the Guard, his promotion taking place at the annual officers' ball in Portland. At that time the Commanding General replaced the somewhat tarnished from wear second lieutenant bars with double silver bars. Captain Helgerson has been assigned to the finance department of the staff corps. He is a veteran of the World War and served on the Mexican border and was the senior second lieutenant, Oregon National Guard, at the time of his promotion. In civil life he is assistant United States attorney in Portland.

Will some one remind us to overhaul those targets and the firing points before the sun comes out?

Figure 1: *The Oregon Guardsman* issue promoting summer camp for 1927. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *The Oregon Guardsman* (1927).

Sources

Just as there is a somewhat specialized vocabulary when discussing National Guard resources, there is a set of research materials specific to Oregon National Guard history. The Office of the Adjutant General was responsible for sending biennial reports to the Governor. The reports, also called TAG reports, are scattered in the collections of several Oregon libraries, but the scans consulted for this project were provided by the Oregon Military Department. Earlier reports contain narrative accounts of training exercises from various officers, the findings of Regular Army inspections and expenses incurred over the past two years. Later reports are more succinct, but still include information on training, new facilities and inspections. Some include pictures. The TAG reports are the ONG's formal historical record, recorded from the viewpoint of ONG and Army officers.

From the viewpoint of the men of the Guard comes *The Oregon Guardsman*, a brigade newsletter issued monthly by the Office of the Adjutant General. It published inside jokes between companies, announced births, deaths and marriages and had an odd, long-running column by the "Kompany Klerk." Most importantly, *The Oregon Guardsman* announced camp schedules for the summer. The editors tried to build excitement for camp by describing in detail the new location or, if the Guard was returning somewhere, the improvements of the last year. During the time of its publication, the Guard's camp moved from out of state in Camp Lewis, WA and Del Monte in Monterey, CA to Camp Jackson and Camp Clatsop in state. While the true reasoning behind the moves is revealed

in the TAG reports, the reaction of the men to the new camps is seen in *The Oregon Guardsman*.

Photographs of National Guard camps and events of the period could be especially helpful resources because they may provide images of what are now largely archaeological resources. The Oregon Historical Society Research Library has a large file of exceptionally good photographs from the relevant period, however they are of minimal use. Few were labeled with location or date at the time of their creation and many have inaccurate, modern captions. Only so much can be gleaned from photographs of white Sibley tents amongst evergreens or on a beach. Inferring date from the uniforms, weapons or equipment of Guardsmen present in the photos was a project too far beyond the scope of this terminal project due to the National Guard's typical variance from Regular Army current issue.

Other sources include Department of Defense and national-level National Guard contexts. Two histories of the National Guard provided a broader picture, as well as a good introduction to the subject of militias and the Guard. Previous surveys and reports of specific resources types were of varying age and accuracy, but provided information otherwise uncollectable, due to the time and scope of this project.

II. HISTORIC CONTEXT

Part One: History of the Oregon National Guard

Early Militia Roots

The Oregon National Guard's earliest roots date to the 1843 provisional government formed at Champoeg, Oregon. An early motion carried by this government called for the election of military officers and recruitment of companies of mounted riflemen.[6] A major and three captains were elected, but formation of militia volunteers and companies did not occur until several years later due to "sparseness of settlement" in the region.[7] In June 1846, a new militia of 45 men was formed with Charles Bennett as Captain and A.A. Robinson as First Lieutenant.[8] The Oregon Rangers participated in one embarrassing incident and then seem to have disbanded.[9]

Another militia group was authorized following the Whitman Massacre in November 1847, when panic overtook settlers in the region.[10] Initially, Captain H.A.G. Lee and 42 men were sent to The Dalles to occupy the mission station, but just days later Governor Abernathy passed a resolution to raise a another company of mounted riflemen.[11] The Oregon Riflemen, along with some U.S. Army troops, served the state in the ensuing Cayuse War, 1848-1850. In 1848

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[6] J. Henry Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon..., Volume 1* (Portland, OR: Wiley B. Allen, Publisher, 1892), 98.

[7] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 236.

[8] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 236.

[9] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 239.

[10] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 325.

[11] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 325-327.

Oregon gained territorial status. This status, along with continued hostilities between settlers and Native Americans, brought an increased U.S. Army presence to the area.

During the American Civil War, U.S. Army troops stationed in Oregon were called to the East Coast, leaving policing duties in the territory unfulfilled. The gap left was filled by volunteer companies, whose duties included guarding reservations, patrolling eastern Oregon mining camps and dealing with Confederate sympathizers.

Reform Through Legislation

While Oregon militias had been disorganized and self-governed, reforms of the late 19th and early 20th centuries sought to change the militia system into a useable military force. In 1887, the passage of Summers Law by the Oregon legislature created two military classes within the state, the Oregon National Guard and the Oregon Reserve Militia, both under the control of the Governor and the new Adjutant General. The law also created the role of Commander-in-Chief, filled by the state Governor, and stated that the Oregon State Military Board would provide enlisted men with uniforms and equipment.[12] Lastly, the law stipulated that state troops would have an annual muster and camp of instruction to be laid out by the Commander-in-Chief and the State Military

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[12] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard to the Governor, 1887-1888* (Salem, OR: Frank C. Baker, State Printer, 1889), 5-7.

Board.[13] However, later reports note that there was difficulty in carrying out the camp of instruction due to lack of funds.[14]

In spring of 1898 the U.S. battleship *Maine* was blown up in harbor of Havana, Cuba, igniting the Spanish-American War. The United States declared war on Spain and sent expeditionary forces to its colonial outposts: Cuba, Puerto Rico and finally the Philippines. Oregon rushed to provide the requested regiment of volunteers.[15] This regiment, unlike many volunteers called out by other states, was healthy, well trained and "ready for war" and was quickly sent to the Philippines after being mustered into service in San Francisco.[16] A second regiment of Oregon volunteers was raised, but after being mobilized were met with Federal disorganization and lack of supplies, and spent the summer of 1898 in San Francisco.[17] Oregon volunteers who served during the Spanish-American War were a valued resource within the Oregon National Guard in later years. Their experiences made them strong leaders and they, as a group, were believed to be a major strength of the organization.[18]

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[13] Oregon Military Department, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard to the Governor, 1887-1888*, 5-7.

[14] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard to the Governor, 1887-1888* (Salem, OR: Frank C. Baker, State Printer, 1889), 12.

[15] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixth Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, 1897-1898* (Salem, OR: W.H. Leeds, State Printer, 1898), 7.

[16] Oregon Military Department, *Sixth Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, 1897-1898*, 9-11.

[17] Oregon Military Department, *Sixth Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, 1897-1898*, 43.

Though Summers Law had done much to bring the Oregon National Guard up to the standards of the Regular Army, as seen by their service in the Philippines, several pieces of Federal legislation were enacted during the first decades of the 20th century that strengthen the National Guard and more clearly defined its role. The First Militia Act of 1903, also called the Dick Act, linked the National Guard to the Federal Government by provision of federal money and equipment to the Guard to facilitate, and on the condition of, standardized drill periods, a five-day annual encampment and inspection by Regular Army officers.[19] In 1916, the National Defense Act doubled drill periods to 48 per year and increased summer encampments to 15 days. The Act provided Guardsmen participating in summer trainings with pay "at the regular rate" for the first time, increasing incentive for attendance.[20]

During the early part of its existence, the Oregon National Guard was composed mainly of field artillery, cavalry and infantry, but expansion into other defensive roles created a better defended region and stronger organization. In 1908, in the "scheme of national defense" and leading the national trend of coastal defense, a coast artillery unit was formed at Astoria.[21] The Coast Artillery

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[18] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Tenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1905-1906* (Salem, OR: J.R. Whitney, State Printer, 1906), 95.

[19] John K. Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard* (New York: Macmillan Publishers Ltd, 1983), 140.

[20] Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard,* 140.

[21] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1909), 25.

Corps was officially organized in December 1911, and headquartered in Eugene.[22] Their purpose was to support the coastal defense system, already in place. An ambulance corps and short-lived naval militia were also formed during this period.

Oregon Troops in Federal Service

In the first half of the 20th century, the Oregon National Guard was called into Federal service several times. In 1916, raids by Poncho Villa threatened the United States' southern border and Oregon's Cavalry, Field Artillery and Third Infantry were mustered into Federal Service. The Guard was instructed to proceed directly to Calexico, California, but first assembled at Clackamas, calling the assembly site "Camp Withycombe."[23] The Third Infantry, called into Federal Service in June 1916, was "the first regiment of state troops in the United States to leave its mobilization camp for the Mexican Border."[24] Upon returning from service, the Third Infantry returned to camp at Clackamas, while the Field Artillery and Cavalry, returning much later, were mustered out at Vancouver

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[22] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1912).

[23] This is the first time the name "Camp Withycombe" is used in reference to the Clackamas campground, named in honor of the Governor of Oregon and Commander-in-Chief of the Oregon National Guard.
Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1914 to October 31, 1916* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1917), 69.

[24] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1914 to October 31, 1916*, 52

Barracks in Washington.[25] Though Oregon troops did not see action much while stationed at the border, their presence fortified the Regular Army and the experience provided valuable field experience.

Just a month after the last Oregon National Guard troops returned from the Mexican Border, war in Europe had grown acute enough that detachments of the Coast Artillery were sent to guard various Portland bridges and utilities. The Third Infantry was mobilized in late March and Federalized in April at Vancouver Barracks. After moving to Clackamas in May, detachments went on guard duty around the state.[26] A state of war with Germany was declared on April 6. During this time, Guard regiments endeavored to recruit up to their maximum allowed strength in order to replace men unfit for service. Numbers swelled and training of new recruits was truly in earnest to prepare for overseas service. By August, remaining organizations of the National Guard were Federalized and assembled at Clackamas.[27] From Clackamas, reorganized Oregon troops went to East Coast camps and then to Europe for the remainder of the Great War.

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[25] The Third Infantry was in Federal Service from June to September 1916, and in camp at Clackamas September 5 to 25, 1916. Troop A, Cavalry and Battery A, Field Artillery were in Federal Service from June 1916 to February 1917.
Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1919), 7.

[26] The move from Vancouver Barracks to Clackamas was due to overcrowding when the Regular Army moved in. It is implied in the report that if it were not for so many men being on duty in other parts of the state, the Clackamas campground would have also been too crowded with just the Guard stationed there.
Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918*, 12.

[27] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918*, 14.

The National Guard's service during the Great War inspired a deep sense of patriotic duty in its troops. Along with a new National Defense Law in 1920, this sense of duty inspired greater levels of training and preparation, as well as a reorganized, more Federally-controlled Guard.[28]

Figure 3: Medal presented for service at the Mexican Border. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1919), 8.

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[28] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Seventeenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1918 to October 31, 1920* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1921), 4.

Part Two: National Guard Training

Early Encampments and Practice Marches, 1900-1910

Even with the requirements first of Summers Law and then the 1903 Dick Act, early 20th century National Guard training at regimental level was largely at the discretion of individual officers and attendance at drill was inconsistent. Suggestions for drill exercises and schedules were occasionally provided by the Military Department and distributed through circulars.

Both Summers Law and the Dick Act required an annual encampment, but for the few exceptional summers of 1900, 1902 and 1908, the entire Oregon National Guard did not regularly train together until 1910. Instead regiments, companies or portions of both would hold encampments. Through biennial reports, it can be seen that some officers had distinct preferences as to where and how they trained. For example, the First Battery, Field Artillery under Captain Hiram U. Welch frequently attended camp on the Oregon coast because his troops enjoyed the "tonic, bracing atmosphere" and Tillamook Head provided a good target for artillery practice.[29] Contemporary sources liken the National Guard to "a local athletic club" and historian Jerry Cooper draws similarities to a fraternal or social group.[30] Reports from James Jackson, the Army Inspector General, dating from the period of 1900 to 1910, praise officers' enthusiasm and troops for their efforts, but indicate that they have much more to learn.

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[29] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1912), 91.

[30] Jerry M. Cooper, "The National Guard Paradox: Volunteers in State Service, 1866-1898," in *The National Guard: The Evolution of the American Militia 1865-1920* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1997), 67-86.

During this same period, 1900 to 1910, practice marches were a standard form of regimental training. Practice marches were opportunities for men to improve skills in the field with equipment and horses, something not easily done in an armory setting. Unlike general encampments, the long march format provided men with extensive time spent marching and in campaign-style movement as a group of soldiers, necessary military skills. A 6 to 10 day march usually began at the home station or armory, leaving early in the morning. Troops marched or rode until afternoon when they stopped to make camp. After a mid-day meal, they had drill and then dinner, followed by parade, athletics or other activity.

Rifle Training, 1900-1930

Target practice and rifle matches were an integral part of the Oregon National Guard from 1905 to 1934. Armories included gallery ranges and all Guardsmen had access to short-distance rifle ranges for practice. However, larger state ranges were needed for other types of practice and to host "state shoots" and encampments. The first of these ranges was built in 1906 in Salem, finished just in time for the State Rifle Competition held that year. It was critiqued as being too small to hold all those who came for the competition and the targets too crowded, but by 1908 it had been "enlarged so that the short, mid ranges or skirmish, and the 800 and 1,000 yard were all in use at the same time."[31] The

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[31] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1909), 109.

next State Range was built at Roseburg, which was bought in 1907 and was still unfinished at the time of the 1907 State Competition held there.[32]

Beginning in 1894 and arising in almost every following biennial report, the suggestion was made to construct a state rifle range at Portland.[33] By 1907, land was under negotiation and the 1909-1910 biennial report notes "a tract of land was leased near Clackamas for the purpose of constructing a rifle range thereon and for the use of a camp ground, containing 100.4 acres."[34] The State Rifle Competition, previously held in Salem and Roseburg, was held at the new, temporary range in 1909.[35] Later that summer, the Third Infantry, Ambulance Company and Fourth Infantry held consecutive summer camps there, naming their temporary campsite "Camp Benson."[36] The permanent facilities were soon built with Mt. Talbert as a backstop for long- and short-range targets. In official reports the site as a whole was called "Clackamas Rifle Range" or the "State camp ground." In the following years, improvements were made to the campground and by 1912 it had a well-water system, a quartermaster's storehouse, stables for

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[32] Oregon Military Department, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908*, 81.

[33] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Tenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1905-1906* (Salem, OR: J.R. Whitney, State Printer, 1906), 18.

[34] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twelfth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1909 -1910* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1911), 32.

[35] Oregon Military Department, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908*, 111; Oregon Military Department, *Twelfth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1909 -1910*, 33.

[36] Oregon Military Department, *Twelfth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1909 -1910*, 5, 130, 138.

the Guard's horses, and "shower and toilet buildings." Telephone lines connected firing lines with their targets.[37]

Between 1912 and 1930, Clackamas Rifle Range grew slowly, increasing slightly in acreage and targets. This stagnation does not reflect the place target practice held in the training of the Oregon National Guard at this time. While prior to the Great War, the Guard had attended national competitions and placed highly, the 1920s marked their peak. In 1923, the Oregon team bested all other National Guard teams at National Rifle Competition at Camp Perry, Ohio. The next year they beat the U.S. Infantry team to win the Infantry Trophy.[38]

Figure 4: Rifle practice, c.1923. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Nineteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1922 to October 31, 1924* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1924), 44.

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[37] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1912), 31, 65.

[38] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1926), 11.

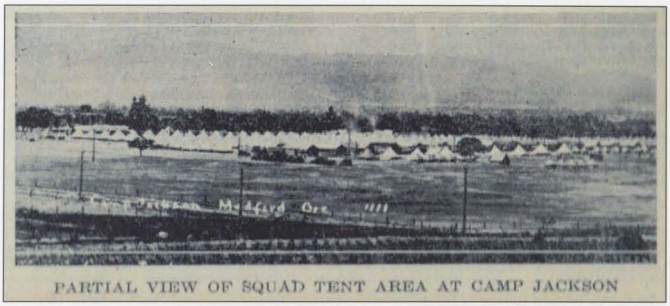

Figure 5: View of Camp Jackson, c.1925. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1926), 11.

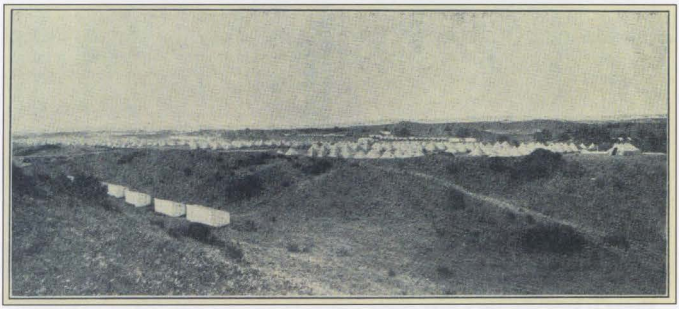

Figure 6: View of Camp Clatsop (now Camp Rilea), c.1927. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General. *Twenty-first Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1926 to October 31, 1928* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1928), 34.

New Reservations and Improvements to Old, 1930-1940

By 1925, it was decided that the Oregon National Guard's tradition of out-of-state summer training was bad policy on the part of a state organization.[39] To remedy this, an in-state training area large enough for the entire Guard was sought. A site just outside of the welcoming town of Medford on the Crater Lake Highway was selected and sewer, water and electricity were hastily run out to the site.[40] Permanent shower, latrine, kitchen and mess hall facilities were constructed using Federal funds and the site was named Camp Jackson.[41] Highly successful summer camps were held there in 1925 and 1926, but in late 1926, laws regarding the National Guard's use of land grant railway fares for troop transport changed and the cost of transporting the Guard to Camp Jackson became "excessive."[42]

An ideal replacement site was found on the Oregon coast between Seaside and Astoria. Camp Clatsop was praised for its good location, ideal climatic conditions and ample water supply.[43] Initially Federal funds allowed for the

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[39] In part, the decision to hold in-state training was an economic one. Spending federally allocated funds out of Oregon did nothing to help the state, while spending money on supplies, equipment and infrastructure in state simply made more sense.

[40] According to ONG records, Medford was overjoyed about the construction of Camp Jackson. In preparation for summer camp the city of Medford planned dances and evening activities for the visiting Guardsmen.

[41] Oregon Military Department, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926*, 5.

[42] Oregon Military Department, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926*, 5.

[43] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-first Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1926 to October 31, 1928* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1928), 9.

construction of permanent kitchens, mess halls, warehouses and an administration building, along with temporary latrines and showers. At the time, the War Department planned development of training camps, or allotment of funds, on an 8- to 10-year time frame.[44] From the beginning, the Oregon National Guard had big plans for their new permanent camp. Camp Clatsop offered exactly what was hoped for; the bulk of the Oregon National Guard could do their annual field training there, while the Coast Artillery trained just down the road at Fort Stevens.

Much of the work done on National Guard reservations in the 1930s was through make-work programs of the Great Depression Era: the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), active 1932-1935, and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), active 1935-1943. Because the Federal government was already providing the Oregon National Guard with money for improvement projects, they were able to instead route the funds through the FERA or WPA program. FERA or WPA workers did the majority of construction done on Oregon National Guard reservations during this time. At Camp Withycombe, up to 200 FERA workers built roads, cleared brush and dug drainage ditches.[45] At Camp Clatsop in 1934, a much larger force of FERA men, around 600, cleared brush and built roads.[46] In the following years, WPA men

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[44] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-first Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1926 to October 31, 1928*, 9.

[45] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-fourth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1932 to October 31, 1934* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1934), 6.

added considerably to the built environment of the camp, constructing hundreds of tent frames, kitchens and mess halls, and a headquarters and administration building. They also repaired and extended the camp's water and sewer system and installed power lines for electric lighting along the tent frames.[47]

In the 1930s, Federal focus on motorization and modernization of military forces initiated a shift in the function of Clackamas Rifle Range to a supply depot, motor pool and training ground for truck drivers and chauffeurs.[48] The range was renamed Camp Withycombe in 1934, as an honor to the late Governor James Withycombe, but also to recall an earlier "designation of [the] reservation."[49] Federal funds allowed for the construction of large concrete buildings, a machine shop and warehouse, as well as an administration building and two frame garages. Training roads were built near the ranges.[50] Though the focus of Camp Withycombe had shifted, target range facilities remained and were improved in the 1930s, with the addition of a new machine gun range in 1937.[51]

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[46] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-fourth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1932 to October 31, 1934*, 6.

[47] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-fifth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1934 to October 31, 1936* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1936), 6, 35.

[48] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1938), 7, 12, 45.

[49] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-fourth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1932 to October 31, 1934*, 6.

[50] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.

[51] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.

In the years before the Second World War, the Oregon National Guard adopted a rigorous schedule of modernization in order to better defend both the nation and the Pacific coast. Infantry regiments were trained in antitank guns, new machine guns and mortars. A portion of the Coast Artillery moved from the big guns of Fort Stevens to searchlights and antiaircraft.[52] Their schedule did not match that of the Federal government, so "dummy models and lectures took the place of actual practice" when delivery of new weapons was delayed.[53] However, increases to field training at Camp Clatsop and armory drill periods ensured that when the Guard was Federalized later that year, September 1940, all members were ready for overseas duty.

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[52] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-seventh Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1938 to October 31, 1940* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1940), 6.

[53] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-seventh Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1938 to October 31, 1940*, 5.

III. ASSOCIATED PROPERTY TYPES

This section provides a list and description of the identified historic property types associated with Oregon National Guard training, 1900-1940. Three main property types have been identified and are described below, but the researcher should refer to the historic contexts for a more complete history and description. The following property types and subtypes are developed in this section:

I. Encampment

Practice March Camp

Temporary Encampment

II. Rifle Range

III. Training Camp

Oregon National Guard resources from the period of 1900-1940 are rare, so taking guidance from the Army National Guard *Historic Context Study* for armories: registration requirements are "simple and liberal."[54] Survey for this project was not done at a building- or structure-level, but instead views each camp or installation as a cohesive entity. Registration requirements provided here speak to these large-scale, district resources and not to the individual resources that may be present within a property. Along with the required features of the property type, retention of integrity and a strong association with Oregon National Guard history may qualify a property for listing. However, registration

[54] Army National Guard, *Final Historic Context Study*, by Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. and Architectural and Historical Research, LLC with Renee Hilton (Washington, DC: 2008), 1-6.

requirements for each property type are the minimum and should be used in conjunction with *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.*

1. Property Type: ENCAMPMENT

Property Subtype: PRACTICE MARCH CAMP

Practice marches were training exercises undertaken by regiments between 1900 and 1906. First Battery, Field Artillery and Troop A, Cavalry made multiple practice marches in the early 20th century in order to improve their skills in the field with equipment and animals, less easily accomplished in an armory setting. A large march was also undertaken by the Third Regiment in order to acclimate men to something other than armory drill, which resulted in some very sore feet. Men would gather at their home station, or Portland, and set out for a multi-day march. Setting out just after dawn, troops marched or rode 10 to 15 miles before making camp and having an afternoon of drill and exercise. Space for a large number of tents and a flat area for drilling were critical in selection of a campsite. Many times, farmers' fields or orchards were used.

As with the overarching property type, practice march camps have no aboveground resources and defining characteristics are found in the translation of the historical to the archaeological. Tents were used to house troops, temporary latrines were dug and garbage was burned or buried. A camp's association with other camps in a series is also somewhat indicative of its particular use as a practice march camp.

Property Subtype: TEMPORARY ENCAMPMENT

Required by Summers Law of 1887 and by the Dick Act of 1903, annual camps of instruction provided the Oregon National Guard with extended periods of drill, athletic exercise and instruction in military matters. Brigade or regimental encampments taking place at temporary tent-based camps fulfilled the National Guard's summer camp requirements for the first two decades of the 20th century. Travelling by train from their home stations, troops gathered for drill and exercise on a large scale. Target practice was also often a part of summer camp and provided a rare opportunity for men to practice with their issued weapons. Camps were located within marching distance of rail stations in order to facilitate the movement of both troops and equipment from armories.

While limited structures were occasionally built for use for the duration of camp, such as latrine shelters, possible archaeological resources characterize this property type. Temporary encampments lasted from 5 to 15 days and did not change location, so archaeological evidence of garbage pits, latrines or company streets may be more apparent than in the case of a practice march camp. The location of many early temporary encampments on the Oregon coast and the use of the low-tide beach for activities limits the creation or preservation of archaeological evidence.

Figure 7: ONG Camp near Seaside, likely the 1909 encampment of the Field Artillery on the Necanicum River. Source: Oregon National Guard camp at Seaside, c.1910. Photo file 744-F, Oregon Historical Society Research Library.

Encampment Significance

This style of summer camp, taking place at a new location each season, is recorded in the historical record for a limited period of time in the National Guard's history, but at a time when the Guard was experiencing some significant changes. Lessons learned from the Spanish American War brought new scrutiny from the Federal government and a general desire to become a better fighting force. This led the Guard to increase standards, both in their training and in their general deportment. Encampments, of either subtype, may be significant at the state under **Criteria A and D** in the area of military for their association with this trend in Oregon National Guard training.

Encampment Registration Requirements

Encampment sites may be eligible at the state level for National Register listing under **Criterion A** in the area of military if features or artifacts are present that relate the sites to the training practices of the Oregon National Guard. Sites may be eligible under **Criterion D** of the National Register if they are able to possibly provide information not otherwise available about the National Guard's training during the time period. For example this could include information on camp hygiene and sanitation, ration supplementation or messing, camp layout or location. Eligibility under **Criterion D** could also come from the potential for information about specific training activities, especially those of the Field Artillery or Cavalry, found through the archaeological record. As solely archaeological sites, archaeological integrity is essential for this property type's eligibility.

2. Property Type: RIFLE RANGE

As discussed in the historic contexts, target practice and rifle matches have long been an integral part of the Oregon National Guard. Armories included gallery ranges and all Guardsmen had access to short-distance rifle ranges for practice. However larger state ranges were needed to host "state shoots" and encampments. The state ranges built at Salem, Roseburg and Clackamas, in 1906, 1907 and 1909 respectively, filled this need. These facilities included multiple types of ranges: mid or "skirmish," 800, and 1000 yard, etc. The range facilities also included campgrounds of varying levels of development, which were necessary to host state matches or other encampments. The Clackamas Rifle

Range was by far the most developed of these properties and included a horse stable, storehouse, "shower and toilet buildings" and a well water supply system by 1912.[55]

In the early 1930s a trend toward motorization of the military added to the rifle range's use as a training ground for truck drivers and chauffeurs and led to construction of concrete buildings and buildings specific to the new function.[56] Training roads and a new machine gun range were also completed in the years before World War II.[57] The Adjutant General's house and associated setting were built in the 1930s.

Figure 8: Target practice on the range at Clackamas Rifle Range. Source: Clackamas Rifle Range, c.1915. Photo file 744-F, Oregon Historical Society Research Library.

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[55] Oregon Military Department, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912*, 31, 65.

[56] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.

[57] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.

Rifle Range Significance

Rifle range properties, or individual portions of a property, may be eligible at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of military for association with the Oregon National Guard's early emphasis on rifle proficiency and rifle training from 1900-1930. Camp Withycombe, historically Clackamas Rifle Range, also garners significance at the state level from its use as a National Guard campground. It served as a mobilization camp for Federalized troops during the Mexican Border conflict in 1915 and also during the Great War in 1917. Camp Withycombe, or portions of it, may be significant at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of social history for its association with FERA and WPA work during the 1930s.

State rifle range sites from the period of 1900 to 1930 may be significant under **Criterion D** if they are likely to provide information about the early training of the Oregon National Guard, state shoot events or specific information about early range technology.

Large portions of Camp Withycombe have been sold or disturbed by new construction and a number of possibly significant ranges from the period no longer exist. It should be noted at this time that the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office has deemed Camp Withycombe, historically the Clackamas Rifle Range, not eligible as a historic district.[58] However this does exclude all components of Camp Withycombe from eligibility.

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[58] Oregon Department of Transportation, Section 106 Documentation Form, Camp Withycombe Historic District, Clackamas, Oregon (April 20, 2010).

Rifle Range Registration Requirements

To be eligible at the state level as a district for the National Register under **Criterion A** in the area of military for association with early rifle training, rifle ranges must retain historic rifle range technology or rifle range space from the period of significance. To be eligible for association with the mobilization of troops or as a rifle range campground, the property must retain historic buildings associated with the property's function such as a mess hall, warehouse and latrines. Retention of the feeling and association of the campground and range spaces is critical, as the spatial connection of these spaces was historically essential to their function.

Nomination of a property under **Criterion A** in the area of social history for association with FERA or WPA work requires an extant resources (landscape, structures, buildings, objects) created by the program with retention of integrity in all areas.

Integrity of archaeological resources is essential for property eligibility under **Criterion D.** Archaeological features or artifacts must be able to provide significant information about National Guard rifle training or ranges to be nominated in this area.

3. Property Type: TRAINING CAMP

Only two examples of this property type exist from the period covered by this MPD. The site of Camp Jackson in Medford may exist as an archaeological site. The camp was built in 1925 with plans for it to be the Oregon National Guard's permanent training facility. With this intention utilities were installed

and permanent kitchens and mess halls built. When training was moved from Camp Jackson to Camp Clatsop some buildings were moved to the new site. However the Camp Jackson site may still present archaeological evidence of its use as a permanent training camp.

Camp Rilea, historically Camp Clatsop, was built on the Oregon coast in 1927 to replace Camp Jackson. In the 1930s extensive landscape work and construction was done by FERA and WPA workers. Historic resources of the period covered by this MPD at Camp Rilea include buildings for housing and serving Guardsmen, such as huts, latrines and mess halls. Warehouses, administration buildings and other utilitarian buildings feature prominently in Camp Rilea's historic landscape. Extensive landscaping, stairs and roadways are also features to consider. Finally, the 1930s Commanding Officer's house, garage and setting are of the historic period and of high integrity.

Figure 9: Early construction at Camp Clatsop. Source: Camp Clatsop, c.1915. Photo file 744-F, Oregon Historical Society Research Library.

Training Camp Significance

Training camps, portions of a camp or individual resources may be significant at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of military for association with national guard training during the Interwar Period. Camp Rilea or portions of it may be significant at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of social history for association with FERA and WPA and the extensive work done at the camp site during the Interwar Period.

Portions of Camp Rilea may also be eligible at the state level under **Criterion C** for building and landscaping work done by FERA and WPA in the 1930s. Integrity of design, materials and workmanship are essential for eligibility in this area as the focus is on construction and design.

The site of Camp Jackson may be eligible under **Criterion D** for the information it may be able to provide about the short period it was used for National Guard training. As a southern Oregon National Guard resource, it is rare and the short time the Guard spent there provides even more intrigue.

Training Camp Registration Requirements

Eligibility under **Criterion A** for association with National Guard training during the Interwar Period requires retention of buildings and structures from the period associated with the property type's function such as mess halls, warehouses, officers' and enlisted latrines, tent platforms or barracks and stairs, paths or roads.

Nomination of a property under **Criterion A or C** in the area of social history for association with FERA or WPA work requires extant resources

(landscape, structures, buildings, objects) created by the program with retention of integrity in materials, design, feeling, location, association, workmanship and setting.

Integrity of archaeological resources is essential for property eligibility under **Criterion D.** Archaeological features or artifacts must be able to provide significant information about National Guard training during the Interwar Period.

IV. CONCLUSION

A goal of this terminal project was to provide the Oregon Military Department with useful research and a document to aid in future planning for historic resources. While the prepared Multiple Property Document provides an evaluation framework for a specific set of resources in a specific, significant period, constraints on time and budget limited the scope of this project. In order to aid future researchers, recommendations for future work are presented here.

Future Work

Due to the time constraints of the Master's program this project was completed in, a building-level survey was not done. Instead, properties were treated as large, cohesive units and judged on large-scale qualities, such as the presence of a mess hall and function, in order to see potential district-size significance. To more fully understand the spectrum of historic resources and their level of integrity, a building-level survey should be completed and individually eligible resources should be identified.

This terminal project's scope was also limited to a fairly narrow period in time, 1900-1940, due to historical significance, but also to time constraints. The Oregon National Guard certainly did not cease to add to their infrastructure after 1940. Thus, the MPD and historic contexts could be expanded to include more recent Guard facilities, like the repurposed Camp Adair and Biak Training Center. These newer additions to the Guard landscape are unique from older resources in their functions, style and location. The addition of this history to the MPD, or the

creation of a new document, would broaden the view of Guard history provided by this project.

Finally, future work from the initial product of this project is found in the area of public outreach. The research produced by this project concerns a valuable state resource, on which there has been little previous in-depth research. It would be a shame if it were only disseminated within the small field of preservation or within the Oregon National Guard community. Instead, broader outreach, possibly through the revamped Oregon Military Museum at Camp Withycombe, could reach an audience who otherwise would not consider the architectural environment of this significant period in Oregon's military history.

THE COLORS.

Figure 10: Colors of the Oregon National Guard, c.1913. Source: Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Fourteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1913-1914* (Salem, OR: 1915).

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Appendix

A. CONCISE LIST OF OREGON NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING EVENTS, 1900-1940

This table is the latest of many lists and tables created from data drawn from TAG reports, *The Oregon Guardsman* and other sources. Some information about location, or unit involvement is missing, simply because it was not recorded in the sources consulted for this project. However, this data gives an overall view of the type and frequency of Guard training through the decades studied.

Date	Location	Type	Name (*temporary*)	Who
1901		Practice March	*Camp Greer, etc.*	Third Regiment
June-July 1901	Eugene	Encampment		Fourth Regiment
July 1901	La Grande	Encampment	*Camp Summers*	First Separate Battalion
July 1902	Albany	Summer Camp	*Camp Williams*	ONG
1903		State Rifle Competition		
August 1903	Seaside	Encampment	*Camp Finzer*	First Battery, Field Artillery
September 1903	Lebanon to Junction City	Practice March		Troop A, Cavalry
September 1903	Gearhart	Encampment	*Camp Summers*	Third Regiment
September 1903	Roseburg	Encampment	*Camp Lawton*	First Separate Battalion
July 1905	Portland to Sandy	Practice March		First Battery, Field Artillery
July 1905	Lebanon to Portland	Practice March		Troop A, Cavalry
July 1905	Gearhart	Encampment		Third Regiment & First Separate Battalion
July 1906	Portland to Salem	Practice March		First Battery, Field Artillery
1906	Salem	State Rifle Competition		
July 1907	Roseburg	Encampment		Third Regiment & First Separate Battalion
July 1907	Seaside	Encampment	*Camp Everett*	Third Regiment
1907	Roseburg	State Rifle Competition		
August 1907	Seaside	Encampment		First Battery, Field Artillery
July 1908	Seaside	Encampment		Battery A, Field Artillery
1908	Salem	State Rifle Competition		
August 1908	American Lake, WA	Combined Maneuvers	*Camp David S. Stanley*	ONG & Regular Army
1909	Clackamas	State Rifle Competition		
July 1909	Clackamas	Encampment	*Camp Benson*	Third Regiment & Ambulance Corps
July 1909	Clackamas	Encampment	*Camp Benson*	Fourth Regiment
August 1909	Seaside	Encampment		Battery A, Field Artillery
September 1909	Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
July 1910	Cascades, WA	Encampment	*Camp Sheridan*	Battery A, Field Artillery
August 1910	American Lake, WA	Combined Maneuvers		ONG & Regular Army
August 1911	Columbia Beach	Summer Camp	*Camp Summers*	ONG
July 1912	Gate, WA	Combined Maneuvers		ONG & Regular Army
August 1912	St. Helens	Encampment		Battery A, Field Artillery
July 1913	Tillamook	Encampment		Third Regiment & Ambulance Corps
August 1913	Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
July 1914	Gearhart	Combined Maneuvers		ONG & Regular Army
July 1914	Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
June 1915	Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
July 1915	Gearhart	Encampment		Third Regiment
July 1916	Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
July 1920	Camp Lewis, WA	Summer Camp		ONG
June 1921	Camp Lewis, WA & Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		ONG & Coast Artillery Corps
June 1922	Camp Lewis, WA & Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		ONG & Coast Artillery Corps
June 1923	Camp Lewis, WA	Combined Maneuvers		41st Division

June 1923	Ft. Barry, CA	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
1924	Camp Lewis, WA	Summer Camp		ONG
1925	Medford	Summer Camp	Camp Jackson	ONG
1925	Ft. Barry, CA	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery Corps
1926	Medford	Summer Camp	Camp Jackson	ONG
1927*	Clatsop Plains	Summer Camp	Camp Clatsop	ONG
1927*	Ft. Stevens	Summer Camp		Coast Artillery
1935	Ft. Lewis	Combined Maneuvers		41st Division
June 1937	Clatsop Plains	Summer Camp	Camp Clatsop	Coast Artillery
August 1937	Camp Murray, WA	Combined Maneuvers		41st Division
1938	Clatsop Plains	Summer Camp	Camp Clatsop	ONG & Coast Artillery
June 1939	Camp Murray	Summer Camp		218th Field Artillery
August 1940	Fort Lewis, WA	Combined Maneuvers		41st Division

*after 1927 the ONG held their annual summer camps at Camp Clatsop

and the Coast Artillery generally held training at Ft. Stevens, but stayed at Camp Clatsop

Exceptions to the yearly training pattern are noted

Appendix

B. *OREGON NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING SITES, 1900-1940*

This National Register Multiple Property Documentation form was prepared by Erika M. deBroekert as part of this Master's terminal project. Portions of the MPD, such as the historic contexts and property type descriptions, are included in terminal project document, but other sections of the MPD are not.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is used for documenting property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (formerly 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items

X New Submission _____ Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Oregon National Guard Training Sites, 1900-1940

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

History of the Oregon National Guard

Training of the Oregon National Guard

C. Form Prepared by

name/title Erika M. deBroekert date June 2014
organization _____ telephone (541) 968-7363
street & number 28015 Briggs Hill Rd email edebroek@uoregon.edu
city or town Eugene state OR zip code 97405

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.
(_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature and title of certifying official: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Oregon National Guard Training Sites, 1900-1940
Name of Multiple Property Listing

OR
State

Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in National Register Bulletin *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (formerly 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

E. Statement of Historic Contexts
(if more than one historic context is documented, present them in sequential order.)

I. History of the Oregon National Guard

Early Militia Roots

The Oregon National Guard's earliest roots date to the 1843 provisional government formed at Champoeg, Oregon. An early motion carried by this government called for the election of military officers and recruitment of companies of mounted riflemen.[1] A major and three captains were elected, but formation of militia volunteers and companies did not occur until several years later due to "sparseness of settlement" in the region.[2] In June 1846, a new militia of 45 men was formed with Charles Bennett as Captain and A.A. Robinson as First Lieutenant.[3] The Oregon Rangers participated in one embarrassing incident and then seem to have disbanded.[4]

Another militia group was authorized following the Whitman Massacre in November 1847, when panic overtook settlers in the region.[5] Initially, Captain H.A.G. Lee and 42 men were sent to The Dalles to occupy the mission station, but just days later Governor Abernathy passed a resolution to raise a another company of mounted riflemen.[6] The Oregon Riflemen, along with some U.S. Army troops, served the state in the ensuing Cayuse War, 1848-1850. In 1848 Oregon gained territorial status. This status, along with continued hostilities between settlers and Native Americans, brought an increased U.S. Army presence to the area.

During the American Civil War, U.S. Army troops stationed in Oregon were called to the East Coast, leaving policing duties in the territory unfulfilled. The gap left was filled by volunteer companies, whose duties included guarding reservations, patrolling eastern Oregon mining camps and dealing with Confederate sympathizers.

Reform Through Legislation

While Oregon militias had been disorganized and self-governed, reforms of the late 19th and early 20th centuries sought to change the militia system into a useable military force. In 1887, the passage of Summers Law by the Oregon legislature created two military classes within the state, the Oregon National Guard and the Oregon Reserve Militia, both under the control of the Governor and the new Adjutant General. The law also created the role of Commander-in-Chief, filled by the state Governor, and stated that the Oregon State Military Board would provide enlisted men with uniforms and equipment.[7] Lastly, the law stipulated that state troops would have an annual muster and camp of instruction to be laid out by the Commander-in-Chief and the State

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[1] J. Henry Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon…, Volume 1* (Portland, OR: Wiley B. Allen, Publisher, 1892), 98.
[2] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 236.
[3] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 236.
[4] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 239.
[5] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon*, 325.
[6] Brown, *Brown's Political History of Oregon,* 325-327.
[7] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard to the Governor, 1887-1888* (Salem, OR: Frank C. Baker, State Printer, 1889), 5-7.

Military Board.[8] However, later reports note that there was difficulty in carrying out the camp of instruction due to lack of funds.[9]

In spring of 1898 the U.S. battleship *Maine* was blown up in harbor of Havana, Cuba, igniting the Spanish-American War. The United States declared war on Spain and sent expeditionary forces to its colonial outposts: Cuba, Puerto Rico and finally the Philippines. Oregon rushed to provide the requested regiment of volunteers.[10] This regiment, unlike many volunteers called out by other states, was healthy, well trained and "ready for war" and was quickly sent to the Philippines after being mustered into service in San Francisco.[11] A second regiment of Oregon volunteers was raised, but after being mobilized were met with Federal disorganization and lack of supplies, and spent the summer of 1898 in San Francisco.[12] Oregon volunteers who served during the Spanish-American War were a valued resource within the Oregon National Guard in later years. Their experiences made them strong leaders and they, as a group, were believed to be a major strength of the organization.[13]

Though Summers Law had done much to bring the Oregon National Guard up to the standards of the Regular Army, as seen by their service in the Philippines, several pieces of Federal legislation were enacted during the first decades of the 20th century that strengthen the National Guard and more clearly defined its role. The First Militia Act of 1903, also called the Dick Act, linked the National Guard to the Federal Government by provision of federal money and equipment to the Guard to facilitate, and on the condition of, standardized drill periods, a five-day annual encampment and inspection by Regular Army officers.[14] In 1916, the National Defense Act doubled drill periods to 48 per year and increased summer encampments to 15 days. The Act provided Guardsmen participating in summer trainings with pay "at the regular rate" for the first time, increasing incentive for attendance.[15]

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[8] Oregon Military Department, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard to the Governor, 1887-1888*, 5-7.
[9] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard to the Governor, 1887-1888* (Salem, OR: Frank C. Baker, State Printer, 1889), 12.
[10] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixth Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, 1897-1898* (Salem, OR: W.H. Leeds, State Printer, 1898), 7.
[11] Oregon Military Department, *Sixth Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, 1897-1898*, 9-11.
[12] Oregon Military Department, *Sixth Biennial Report of the Adjutant-General of the Oregon National Guard, 1897-1898*, 43.
[13] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Tenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1905-1906* (Salem, OR: J.R. Whitney, State Printer, 1906), 95.
[14] John K. Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard* (New York: Macmillan Publishers Ltd, 1983), 140.
[15] Mahon, *History of the Militia and the National Guard,* 140.

During the early part of its existence, the Oregon National Guard was composed mainly of field artillery, cavalry and infantry, but expansion into other defensive roles created a better defended region and stronger organization. In 1908, in the "scheme of national defense" and leading the national trend of coastal defense, a coast artillery unit was formed at Astoria.[16] The Coast Artillery Corps was officially organized in December 1911, and headquartered in Eugene.[17] Their purpose was to support the coastal defense system, already in place. An ambulance corps and short-lived naval militia were also formed during this period.

Oregon Troops in Federal Service

In the first half of the 20th century, the Oregon National Guard was called into Federal service several times. In 1916, raids by Poncho Villa threatened the United States' southern border and Oregon's Cavalry, Field Artillery and Third Infantry were mustered into Federal Service. The Guard was instructed to proceed directly to Calexico, California, but first assembled at Clackamas, calling the assembly site "Camp Withycombe."[18] The Third Infantry, called into Federal Service in June 1916, was "the first regiment of state troops in the United States to leave its mobilization camp for the Mexican Border."[19] Upon returning from service, the Third Infantry returned to camp at Clackamas, while the Field Artillery and Cavalry, returning much later, were mustered out at Vancouver Barracks in Washington.[20] Though Oregon troops did not see action much while stationed at the border, their presence fortified the Regular Army and the experience provided valuable field experience.

Just a month after the last Oregon National Guard troops returned from the Mexican Border, war in Europe had grown acute enough that detachments of the Coast Artillery were sent to guard various Portland bridges and utilities. The Third Infantry was mobilized in late March and Federalized in April at Vancouver

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[16] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1909), 25.

[17] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1912).

[18] This is the first time the name "Camp Withycombe" is used in reference to the Clackamas campground, named in honor of the Governor of Oregon and Commander-in-Chief of the Oregon National Guard.
Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1914 to October 31, 1916* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1917), 69.

[19] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Fifteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1914 to October 31, 1916*, 52

[20] The Third Infantry was in Federal Service from June to September 1916, and in camp at Clackamas September 5 to 25, 1916. Troop A, Cavalry and Battery A, Field Artillery were in Federal Service from June 1916 to February 1917.
Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1919), 7.

Barracks. After moving to Clackamas in May, detachments went on guard duty around the state.[21] A state of war with Germany was declared on April 6. During this time, Guard regiments endeavored to recruit up to their maximum allowed strength in order to replace men unfit for service. Numbers swelled and training of new recruits was truly in earnest to prepare for overseas service. By August, remaining organizations of the National Guard were Federalized and assembled at Clackamas.[22] From Clackamas, reorganized Oregon troops went to East Coast camps and then to Europe for the remainder of the Great War.

The National Guard's service during the Great War inspired a deep sense of patriotic duty in its troops. Along with a new National Defense Law in 1920, this sense of duty inspired greater levels of training and preparation, as well as a reorganized, more Federally-controlled Guard.[23]

II. National Guard Training

Early Encampments and Practice Marches, 1900-1910

Even with the requirements first of Summers Law and then the 1903 Dick Act, early 20th century National Guard training at regimental level was largely at the discretion of individual officers and attendance at drill was inconsistent. Suggestions for drill exercises and schedules were occasionally provided by the Military Department and distributed through circulars.

Both Summers Law and the Dick Act required an annual encampment, but for the few exceptional summers of 1900, 1902 and 1908, the entire Oregon National Guard did not regularly train together until 1910. Instead regiments, companies or portions of both would hold encampments. Through biennial reports, it can be seen that some officers had distinct preferences as to where and how they trained. For example, the First Battery, Field Artillery under Captain Hiram U. Welch frequently attended camp on the Oregon coast because his troops enjoyed the "tonic, bracing atmosphere" and Tillamook Head provided a good target for artillery practice.[24] Contemporary sources liken the National Guard to "a local athletic club" and historian Jerry Cooper

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[21] The move from Vancouver Barracks to Clackamas was due to overcrowding when the Regular Army moved in. It is implied in the report that if it were not for so many men being on duty in other parts of the state, the Clackamas campground would have also been too crowded with just the Guard stationed there.
Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918*, 12.
[22] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Sixteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1916 to October 31, 1918*, 14.
[23] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Seventeenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1918 to October 31, 1920* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1921), 4.
[24] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1912), 91.

draws similarities to a fraternal or social group.[25] Reports from James Jackson, the Army Inspector General, dating from the period of 1900 to 1910, praise officers' enthusiasm and troops for their efforts, but indicate that they have much more to learn.

During this same period, 1900 to 1910, practice marches were a standard form of regimental training. Practice marches were opportunities for men to improve skills in the field with equipment and horses, something not easily done in an armory setting. Unlike general encampments, the long march format provided men with extensive time spent marching and in campaign-style movement as a group of soldiers, necessary military skills. A 6 to 10 day march usually began at the home station or armory, leaving early in the morning. Troops marched or rode until afternoon when they stopped to make camp. After a mid-day meal, they had drill and then dinner, followed by parade, athletics or other activity.

Rifle Training, 1900-1930

Target practice and rifle matches were an integral part of the Oregon National Guard from 1905 to 1934. Armories included gallery ranges and all Guardsmen had access to short-distance rifle ranges for practice. However, larger state ranges were needed for other types of practice and to host "state shoots" and encampments. The first of these ranges was built in 1906 in Salem, finished just in time for the State Rifle Competition held that year. It was critiqued as being too small to hold all those who came for the competition and the targets too crowded, but by 1908 it had been "enlarged so that the short, mid ranges or skirmish, and the 800 and 1,000 yard were all in use at the same time."[26] The next State Range was built at Roseburg, which was bought in 1907 and was still unfinished at the time of the 1907 State Competition held there.[27]

Beginning in 1894 and arising in almost every following biennial report, the suggestion was made to construct a state rifle range at Portland.[28] By 1907, land was under negotiation and the 1909-1910 biennial report notes "a tract of land was leased near Clackamas for the purpose of constructing a rifle range thereon and for the use of a camp ground, containing 100.4 acres."[29] The State Rifle Competition, previously held in

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[25] Jerry M. Cooper, "The National Guard Paradox: Volunteers in State Service, 1866-1898," in *The National Guard: The Evolution of the American Militia 1865-1920* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1997), 67-86.
[26] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1909), 109.
[27] Oregon Military Department, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908*, 81.
[28] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Tenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1905-1906* (Salem, OR: J.R. Whitney, State Printer, 1906), 18.
[29] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twelfth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1909 -1910* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1911), 32.

Salem and Roseburg, was held at the new, temporary range in 1909.[30] Later that summer, the Third Infantry, Ambulance Company and Fourth Infantry held consecutive summer camps there, naming their temporary campsite "Camp Benson."[31] The permanent facilities were soon built with Mt. Talbert as a backstop for long- and short-range targets. In official reports the site as a whole was called "Clackamas Rifle Range" or the "State camp ground." In the following years, improvements were made to the campground and by 1912 it had a well-water system, a quartermaster's storehouse, stables for the Guard's horses, and "shower and toilet buildings." Telephone lines connected firing lines with their targets.[32]

Between 1912 and 1930, Clackamas Rifle Range grew slowly, increasing slightly in acreage and targets. This stagnation does not reflect the place target practice held in the training of the Oregon National Guard at this time. While prior to the Great War, the Guard had attended national competitions and placed highly, the 1920s marked their peak. In 1923, the Oregon team bested all other National Guard teams at National Rifle Competition at Camp Perry, Ohio. The next year they beat the U.S. Infantry team to win the Infantry Trophy.[33]

New Reservations and Improvements to Old, 1930-1940

By 1925, it was decided that the Oregon National Guard's tradition of out-of-state summer training was bad policy on the part of a state organization.[34] To remedy this, an in-state training area large enough for the entire Guard was sought. A site just outside of the welcoming town of Medford on the Crater Lake Highway was selected and sewer, water and electricity were hastily run out to the site.[35] Permanent shower, latrine, kitchen and mess hall facilities were constructed using Federal funds and the site was named Camp Jackson.[36] Highly successful summer camps were held there in 1925 and 1926, but in late 1926, laws

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[30] Oregon Military Department, *Eleventh Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1907 and 1908*, 111; Oregon Military Department, *Twelfth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1909 -1910*, 33.

[31] Oregon Military Department, *Twelfth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1909 -1910*, 5, 130, 138.

[32] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912* (Salem, OR: Willis S. Duniway, State Printer, 1912), 31, 65.

[33] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1926), 11.

[34] In part, the decision to hold in-state training was an economic one. Spending federally allocated funds out of Oregon did nothing to help the state, while spending money on supplies, equipment and infrastructure in state simply made more sense.

[35] According to ONG records, Medford was overjoyed about the construction of Camp Jackson. In preparation for summer camp the city of Medford planned dances and evening activities for the visiting Guardsmen.

[36] Oregon Military Department, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926*, 5.

regarding the National Guard's use of land grant railway fares for troop transport changed and the cost of transporting the Guard to Camp Jackson became "excessive."[37]

An ideal replacement site was found on the Oregon coast between Seaside and Astoria. Camp Clatsop was praised for its good location, ideal climatic conditions and ample water supply.[38] Initially Federal funds allowed for the construction of permanent kitchens, mess halls, warehouses and an administration building, along with temporary latrines and showers. At the time, the War Department planned development of training camps, or allotment of funds, on an 8- to 10-year time frame.[39] From the beginning, the Oregon National Guard had big plans for their new permanent camp. Camp Clatsop offered exactly what was hoped for; the bulk of the Oregon National Guard could do their annual field training there, while the Coast Artillery trained just down the road at Fort Stevens.

Much of the work done on National Guard reservations in the 1930s was through make-work programs of the Great Depression Era: the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), active 1932-1935, and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), active 1935-1943. Because the Federal government was already providing the Oregon National Guard with money for improvement projects, they were able to instead route the funds through the FERA or WPA program. FERA or WPA workers did the majority of construction done on Oregon National Guard reservations during this time. At Camp Withycombe, up to 200 FERA workers built roads, cleared brush and dug drainage ditches.[40] At Camp Clatsop in 1934, a much larger force of FERA men, around 600, cleared brush and built roads.[41] In the following years, WPA men added considerably to the built environment of the camp, constructing hundreds of tent frames, kitchens and mess halls, and a headquarters and administration building. They also repaired and extended the camp's water and sewer system and installed power lines for electric lighting along the tent frames.[42]

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[37] Oregon Military Department, *Twentieth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1924 to October 31, 1926*, 5.
[38] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-first Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1926 to October 31, 1928* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1928), 9.
[39] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-first Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Period November 1, 1926 to October 31, 1928*, 9.
[40] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-fourth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1932 to October 31, 1934* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1934), 6.
[41] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-fourth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1932 to October 31, 1934*, 6.
[42] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-fifth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1934 to October 31, 1936* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1936), 6, 35.

In the 1930s, Federal focus on motorization and modernization of military forces initiated a shift in the function of Clackamas Rifle Range to a supply depot, motor pool and training ground for truck drivers and chauffeurs.[43] The range was renamed Camp Withycombe in 1934, as an honor to the late Governor James Withycombe, but also to recall an earlier "designation of [the] reservation."[44] Federal funds allowed for the construction of large concrete buildings, a machine shop and warehouse, as well as an administration building and two frame garages. Training roads were built near the ranges.[45] Though the focus of Camp Withycombe had shifted, target range facilities remained and were improved in the 1930s, with the addition of a new machine gun range in 1937.[46]

In the years before the Second World War, the Oregon National Guard adopted a rigorous schedule of modernization in order to better defend both the nation and the Pacific coast. Infantry regiments were trained in antitank guns, new machine guns and mortars. A portion of the Coast Artillery moved from the big guns of Fort Stevens to searchlights and antiaircraft.[47] Their schedule did not match that of the Federal government, so "dummy models and lectures took the place of actual practice" when delivery of new weapons was delayed.[48] However, increases to field training at Camp Clatsop and armory drill periods ensured that when the Guard was Federalized later that year, September 1940, all members were ready for overseas duty.

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[43] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1938), 7, 12, 45.
[44] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-fourth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1932 to October 31, 1934*, 6.
[45] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.
[46] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.
[47] Oregon Military Department, Office of the Adjutant General, *Twenty-seventh Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1938 to October 31, 1940* (Salem, OR: State Printing Department, 1940), 6.
[48] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-seventh Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1938 to October 31, 1940*, 5.

F. Associated Property Types
(Provide description, significance, and registration requirements.)

This section provides a list and description of the identified historic property types associated with Oregon National Guard training, 1900-1940. Three main property types have been identified and are described below, but the researcher should refer to the historic contexts for a more complete history and description. The following property types and subtypes are developed in this section:

I. Encampment
- Practice March Camp
- Temporary Encampment

II. Rifle Range

III. Training Camp

Oregon National Guard resources from the period of 1900-1940 are rare, so taking guidance from the Army National Guard *Historic Context Study* for armories: registration requirements are "simple and liberal."[49] Survey for this project was not done at a building- or structure-level, but instead views each camp or installation as a cohesive entity. Registration requirements provided here speak to these large-scale, district resources and not to the individual resources that may be present within a property. Along with the required features of the property type, retention of integrity and a strong association with Oregon National Guard history may qualify a property for listing. However, registration requirements for each property type are the minimum and should be used in conjunction with *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.*

I. Property Type: ENCAMPMENT

Property Subtype: PRACTICE MARCH CAMP

Practice marches were training exercises undertaken by regiments between 1900 and 1906. First Battery, Field Artillery and Troop A, Cavalry made multiple practice marches in the early 20th century in order to improve their skills in the field with equipment and animals, less easily accomplished in an armory setting. A large march was also undertaken by the Third Regiment in order to acclimate men to something other than armory drill, which resulted in some very sore feet. Men would gather at their home station, or Portland, and set out for a multi-day march. Setting out just after dawn, troops marched or rode 10 to 15 miles before making camp and having an afternoon of drill and exercise. Space for a large number of tents and a flat area for drilling were critical in selection of a campsite. Many times, farmers' fields or orchards were used.

[49] Army National Guard, *Final Historic Context Study*, by Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. and Architectural and Historical Research, LLC with Renee Hilton (Washington, DC: 2008), 1-6.

As with the overarching property type, practice march camps have no aboveground resources and defining characteristics are found in the translation of the historical to the archaeological. Tents were used to house troops, temporary latrines were dug and garbage was burned or buried. A camp's association with other camps in a series is also somewhat indicative of its particular use as a practice march camp.

Property Subtype: TEMPORARY ENCAMPMENT

Required by Summers Law of 1887 and by the Dick Act of 1903, annual camps of instruction provided the Oregon National Guard with extended periods of drill, athletic exercise and instruction in military matters. Brigade or regimental encampments taking place at temporary tent-based camps fulfilled the National Guard's summer camp requirements for the first two decades of the 20th century. Travelling by train from their home stations, troops gathered for drill and exercise on a large scale. Target practice was also often a part of summer camp and provided a rare opportunity for men to practice with their issued weapons. Camps were located within marching distance of rail stations in order to facilitate the movement of both troops and equipment from armories.

While limited structures were occasionally built for use for the duration of camp, such as latrine shelters, possible archaeological resources characterize this property type. Temporary encampments lasted from 5 to 15 days and did not change location, so archaeological evidence of garbage pits, latrines or company streets may be more apparent than in the case of a practice march camp. The location of many early temporary encampments on the Oregon coast and the use of the low-tide beach for activities limits the creation or preservation of archaeological evidence.

Encampment Significance

This style of summer camp, taking place at a new location each season, is recorded in the historical record for a limited period of time in the National Guard's history, but at a time when the Guard was experiencing some significant changes. Lessons learned from the Spanish American War brought new scrutiny from the Federal government and a general desire to become a better fighting force. This led the Guard to increase standards, both in their training and in their general deportment. Encampments, of either subtype, may be significant at the state under **Criteria A and D** in the area of military for their association with this trend in Oregon National Guard training.

Encampment Registration Requirements

Encampment sites may be eligible at the state level for National Register listing under **Criterion A** in the area of military if features or artifacts are present that relate the sites to the training practices of the Oregon National Guard. Sites may be eligible under **Criterion D** of the National Register if they are able to possibly

provide information not otherwise available about the National Guard's training during the time period. For example this could include information on camp hygiene and sanitation, ration supplementation or messing, camp layout or location. Eligibility under **Criterion D** could also come from the potential for information about specific training activities, especially those of the Field Artillery or Cavalry, found through the archaeological record. As solely archaeological sites, archaeological integrity is essential for this property type's eligibility.

II. Property Type: RIFLE RANGE

As discussed in the historic contexts, target practice and rifle matches have long been an integral part of the Oregon National Guard. Armories included gallery ranges and all Guardsmen had access to short-distance rifle ranges for practice. However larger state ranges were needed to host "state shoots" and encampments. The state ranges built at Salem, Roseburg and Clackamas, in 1906, 1907 and 1909 respectively, filled this need. These facilities included multiple types of ranges: mid or "skirmish," 800, and 1000 yard, etc. The range facilities also included campgrounds of varying levels of development, which were necessary to host state matches or other encampments. The Clackamas Rifle Range was by far the most developed of these properties and included a horse stable, storehouse, "shower and toilet buildings" and a well water supply system by 1912.[50]

In the early 1930s a trend toward motorization of the military added to the rifle range's use as a training ground for truck drivers and chauffeurs and led to construction of concrete buildings and buildings specific to the new function.[51] Training roads and a new machine gun range were also completed in the years before World War II.[52] The Adjutant General's house and associated setting were built in the 1930s.

Rifle Range Significance

Rifle range properties, or individual portions of a property, may be eligible at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of military for association with the Oregon National Guard's early emphasis on rifle proficiency and rifle training from 1900-1930. Camp Withycombe, historically Clackamas Rifle Range, also garners significance at the state level from its use as a National Guard campground. It served as a mobilization camp for Federalized troops during the Mexican Border conflict in 1915 and also during the Great War in 1917. Camp Withycombe, or portions of it, may be significant at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of social history for its association with FERA and WPA work during the 1930s.

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[50] Oregon Military Department, *Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Oregon to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief for the Years 1911-1912*, 31, 65.

[51] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.

[52] Oregon Military Department, *Twenty-sixth Biennial Report of The Military Department of the State of Oregon to the Governor for the Period November 1, 1936 to October 31, 1938*, 12.

State rifle range sites from the period of 1900 to 1930 may be significant under **Criterion D** if they are likely to provide information about the early training of the Oregon National Guard, state shoot events or specific information about early range technology.

Large portions of Camp Withycombe have been sold or disturbed by new construction and a number of possibly significant ranges from the period no longer exist. It should be noted at this time that the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office has deemed Camp Withycombe, historically the Clackamas Rifle Range, not eligible as a historic district.[53] However this does exclude all components of Camp Withycombe from eligibility.

Rifle Range Registration Requirements

To be eligible at the state level as a district for the National Register under **Criterion A** in the area of military for association with early rifle training, rifle ranges must retain historic rifle range technology or rifle range space from the period of significance. To be eligible for association with the mobilization of troops or as a rifle range campground, the property must retain historic buildings associated with the property's function such as a mess hall, warehouse and latrines. Retention of the feeling and association of the campground and range spaces is critical, as the spatial connection of these spaces was historically essential to their function.

Nomination of a property under **Criterion A** in the area of social history for association with FERA or WPA work requires an extant resources (landscape, structures, buildings, objects) created by the program with retention of integrity in all areas.

Integrity of archaeological resources is essential for property eligibility under **Criterion D.** Archaeological features or artifacts must be able to provide significant information about National Guard rifle training or ranges to be nominated in this area.

III. Property Type: TRAINING CAMP

Only two examples of this property type exist from the period covered by this MPD. The site of Camp Jackson in Medford may exist as an archaeological site. The camp was built in 1925 with plans for it to be the Oregon National Guard's permanent training facility. With this intention utilities were installed and permanent kitchens and mess halls built. When training was moved from Camp Jackson to Camp Clatsop some buildings were moved to the new site. However the Camp Jackson site may still present archaeological evidence of its use as a permanent training camp.

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53 Oregon Department of Transportation, Section 106 Documentation Form, Camp Withycombe Historic District, Clackamas, Oregon (April 20, 2010).

Camp Rilea, historically Camp Clatsop, was built on the Oregon coast in 1927 to replace Camp Jackson. In the 1930s extensive landscape work and construction was done by FERA and WPA workers. Historic resources of the period covered by this MPD at Camp Rilea include buildings for housing and serving Guardsmen, such as huts, latrines and mess halls. Warehouses, administration buildings and other utilitarian buildings feature prominently in Camp Rilea's historic landscape. Extensive landscaping, stairs and roadways are also features to consider. Finally, the 1930s Commanding Officer's house, garage and setting are of the historic period and of high integrity.

Training Camp Significance

Training camps, portions of a camp or individual resources may be significant at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of military for association with national guard training during the Interwar Period. Camp Rilea or portions of it may be significant at the state level under **Criterion A** in the area of social history for association with FERA and WPA and the extensive work done at the camp site during the Interwar Period.

Portions of Camp Rilea may also be eligible at the state level under **Criterion C** for building and landscaping work done by FERA and WPA in the 1930s. Integrity of design, materials and workmanship are essential for eligibility in this area as the focus is on construction and design.

The site of Camp Jackson may be eligible under **Criterion D** for the information it may be able to provide about the short period it was used for National Guard training. As a southern Oregon National Guard resource, it is rare and the short time the Guard spent there provides even more intrigue.

Training Camp Registration Requirements

Eligibility under **Criterion A** for association with National Guard training during the Interwar Period requires retention of buildings and structures from the period associated with the property type's function such as mess halls, warehouses, officers' and enlisted latrines, tent platforms or barracks and stairs, paths or roads.

Nomination of a property under **Criterion A or C** in the area of social history for association with FERA or WPA work requires extant resources (landscape, structures, buildings, objects) created by the program with retention of integrity in materials, design, feeling, location, association, workmanship and setting.

Integrity of archaeological resources is essential for property eligibility under **Criterion D.** Archaeological features or artifacts must be able to provide significant information about National Guard training during the Interwar Period.

G. Geographical Data

The geographical area encompasses the entire state of Oregon.

H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

(Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.)

A primary goal in the preparation of the multiple property documentation form was to establish property types for non-armory Oregon National Guard resources with the hope of aiding the Oregon Military Department in prioritization and preservation of the historic resources. Previous research on this period of National Guard history largely focused on specific resource types, such as armories, or were national contexts with little relevant to Oregon's particular resources.

Extensive historical research was used in the development of both historic contexts and property types. Biennial reports from the Adjutant General to the state Governor provided essential information about temporary camps, brigade activities and the building of permanent facilities. This historical data was compared with more recent surveys, maps and aerials to determine what resources may still exist. Site visits by the author, prior to the start of the project, informed about possible condition and integrity. Property types were determined by site function and associated historical period through analysis of all training reported in biennial reports from 1900 to 1940.

Resources associated with the Guard from the period of 1900-1940 are rare, and becoming rarer, so registration requirements are simple. Some retention of integrity and a strong association with Oregon National Guard history may qualify a property for listing. However, it is advised that registration requirements for each property type are the minimum and should be used in conjunction with *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.*

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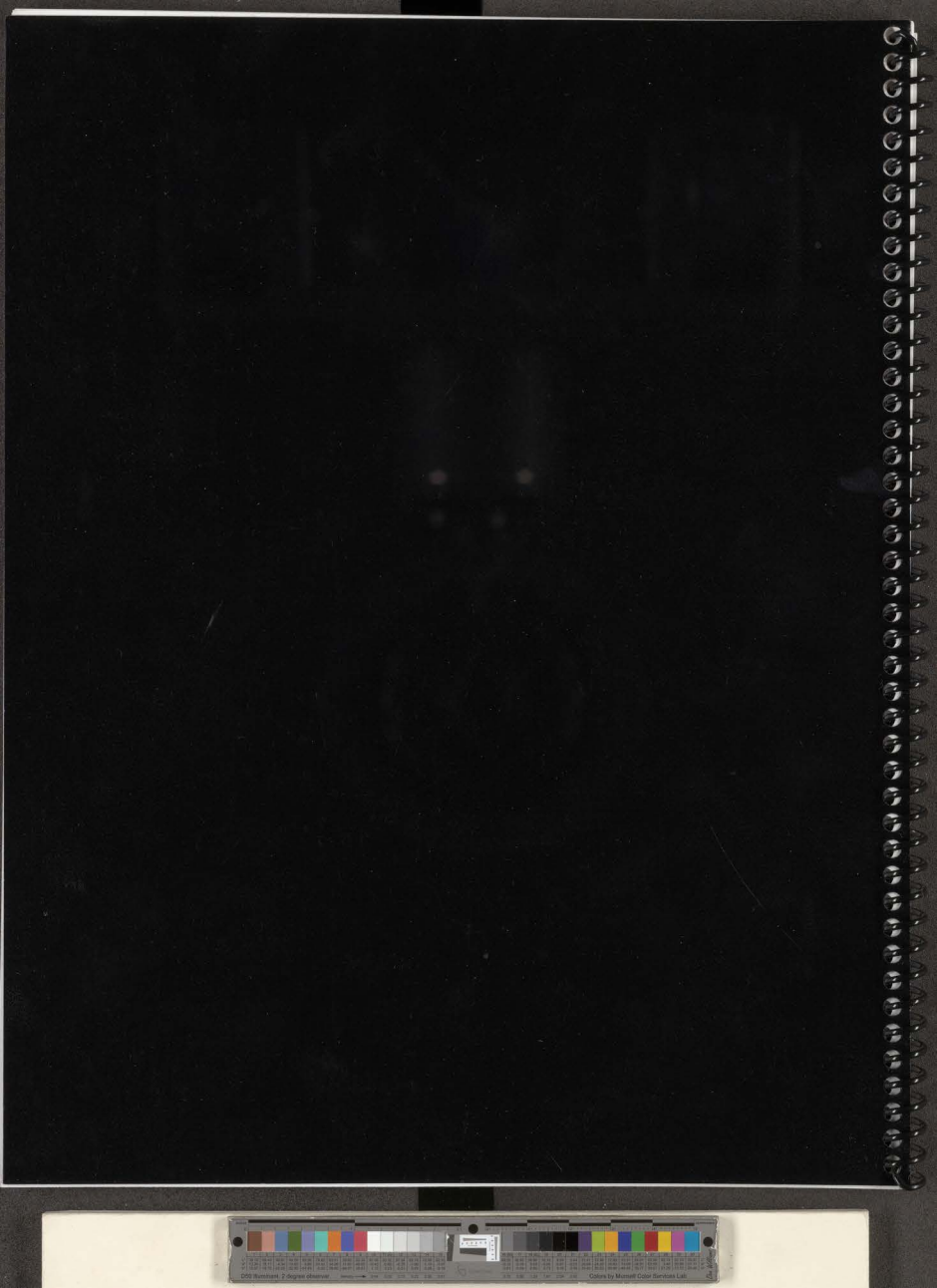
Additional documentation found at the Oregon Military Department, Oregon State Library, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

Additional Documentation

(Figures, Maps, Appendices, and other materials. Please include a list of all included additional materials. Reduce file size to 300kb or less for each individual image.)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Colors by Munsell Color Services Lab.