

WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

A) Identification

Historic Name: **John Pollock's Grave**
Common Name:
Address: 32324 N.W. Pollock Road
City: LaCenter County: Clark

B) Site Access (describe site access, restrictions, etc.)

The grave sits right alongside the left side of Pollock Road (formily Hiway 99) Ridgefield. To reach the grave take Interstate 5 exit 16 go east 1.5 miles, turn right on NW Timmons, go 1/8 mile, turn left on NW Pollock Road, proceed 1/4 mile to the grave site.

C) Property owner(s), Address and Zip

Name: Steve and Leslie Headley
Address: 402 N.W. E77th circle
City: Ridgefield State: WA Zip: 98642

D) Legal boundary description and boundary justification

Tax No./Parcel: #11 & 20 sec 3 T4N R1EWM 2.33 acres
Boundary Justification: The nominated site contains all of the land associated with the grave.
GPS N45 degrees 51.303 W122 degrees 40.337

FORM PREPARED BY

Name: Thomas W. Wooldridge
Address: 32324 N.W. Pollock Road
City / State / Zip: Ridgefield, WA 98642 Phone: 360- 263-4816

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E) Category of Property (Choose One)

- building structure (irrigation system, bridge, etc.) district
 object (statue, grave marker, vessel, etc.) cemetery/burial site
 historic site (site of an important event) archaeological site
 traditional cultural property (spiritual or creation site, etc.)
 cultural landscape (habitation, agricultural, industrial, recreational, etc.)

F) Area of Significance – Check as many as apply

- The property belongs to the early settlement, commercial development, or original native occupation of a community or region.
- The property is directly connected to a movement, organization, institution, religion, or club which served as a focal point for a community or group.
- The property is directly connected to specific activities or events which had a lasting impact on the community or region.
- The property is associated with legends, spiritual or religious practices, or life ways which are uniquely related to a piece of land or to a natural feature.
- The property displays strong patterns of land use or alterations of the environment which occurred during the historic period (cultivation, landscaping, industry, mining, irrigation, recreation).
- The property is directly associated with an individual who made an important contribution to a community or to a group of people.
- The property has strong artistic, architectural or engineering qualities, or displays unusual materials or craftwork belonging to a historic era.
- The property was designed or built by an influential architect, or reflects the work of an important artisan.
- Archaeological investigation of the property has or will increase our understanding of past cultures or life ways.

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G) Property Description

The site consists of a small enclosed area located at the cutout section of a steep North facing hill. This area is defined by a newer, simple post and beam, vinyl fence. In front, on the northeast facing slope, is a tablet style granite marker. The marker has a sloped/ battered side and the top is defined by three half arches. The marker is inscribed: John Pollock 1824-1868. Below is an image of a sternwheeler boat traveling away from the viewer. The fence and marker were installed in 2009. They were purchased by Thomas Woolridge and Roberta Emerick (great-granddaughter of John Pollock).

Immediately behind the grave is a working antique windmill and there are two more working antique windmills within 100 feet. Immediately in front of the grave is Pollock Road and then the East Fork of the Lewis River.

Note there is a deed restriction on the property stating that the owner of the property will not disturb the grave and must maintain the area around it.

H) Significance

The nominated site is historically significant for its direct connection to early Washington Territorial pioneer John Pollock (1824-1868). Pollock, who served as an Indian Agent and Clarke County representative to 13th & 14th Territorial Legislative sessions, made an important contribution to the southwestern Washington region during the mid to late 19th century. His burial site is the only physical reminder on the landscape of Pollock's life.

Pollock, the son of Scottish immigrants, was born in 1824 in County Monahan, Ireland. He was born just four days before the family was scheduled to depart from Belfast, Ireland on a voyage to New York. Upon arriving in America, the family, with six children, settled with Thomas Sr.'s brother in Cambridge, Ohio where he had a small farm. They remained there for several years before moving to Des Moines, Iowa.

Reportedly after attending law school, John Pollock began a practice in Des Moines. He became an influential member of the local community and was very active in the Democratic Party. In 1848, at the age of 24, he was summoned to Washington D.C. by President James Knox Polk, his first cousin. Polk asked Pollock to accept an

appointment an Indian Agent in the Oregon Territory. His assignment included studying Native Americans of the Lewis River area and promoting understanding between the increasing numbers of settlers and tribes.

In 1849 John and his brother, Robert, left the east coast in a sailing vessel traveling south around Cape Horn. After traveling up the Pacific Coast, the brothers departed in San Francisco, where they purchased horses and supplies for a trip to Yreka before heading into the Oregon Territory. The two had planned to stake out gold mining claims, but they soon grew tired of hunting for gold so they headed north by horseback.

Following Indian horse trails, they finally reached Vancouver after several days of journey thorough the Oregon Territory. Some time was spent exploring the Lewis River before John filed a Donation Land Claim in 1850 for 160 acres of bottom and hill land located along the river just south of the future town site of LaCenter.

After staking his land claim, Pollock began developing the property. In 1851 he married Magdaline Banzer (1836-1851), a daughter of John W. Banzer who had settled on the north side of the east fork of the Lewis River. Her family was one of the first wagon trains that had traveled to the Oregon Territory via the Oregon Trail. Tragically, in 1851 shortly after their marriage, Magdaline died in childbirth and John, then age 28, along with his brother decided to return to their parent's home in Iowa.

In 1853 Pollock traveled again to Washington, DC where he was appointed by President Millard Fillmore to return to the Lewis River area and continue working with the Native Americans, settling problems and protecting their rights. By then Isaac I. Stevens had been appointed Territorial Governor of the newly established Washington Territory.

Again the brothers sailed down the Atlantic Coast to Cape Horn and backup the Pacific Coast. Robert got off the boat in Yreka to work his gold mining claim, and John continued on to Portland returning to his homestead claim near LaCenter.

He began working his homestead claim and quickly became a respected farmer in the region. Reportedly he served as a delegate from the Lewis River area to the first Federal Court session held in the Washington Territory in 1854. However, Pollock was not quite ready to settle down so he decided to visit his brother in California, traveling by horseback over the trails he had earlier traversed. John stay for a few months in Yreka but returned to the Lewis River area with plans to start a life anew in 1855.

As the settlers were arriving in the new territory, they first coexisted peacefully with the Native Americans in the northern Clark County area. However, in 1855 word reached the settlers that a renegade group of Native Americans could be attacking their homesteads. The women and children were rowed across the Columbia River to the St. Helens blockhouse in Oregon. The men took up arms and joined the Lewis River Mounted Rangers, led by Captain William Bratton. The Company was comprised of

44 volunteers, mainly valley homesteaders whom had to supply their own guns and horses. John Pollock was part of the company and served as a Private. Some reports note he was a Sergeant, but this cannot be verified. The Rangers did a great deal of drilling and marching for three winter months (Nov 1, 1855 to Jan 31, 1856). When spring came, tensions subsided and with no fighting, the Lewis River volunteers went back to plowing and stump clearing.

In 1857, Pollock married Eliza Banzer, then age 15, a sister of his deceased first wife. Together they built a house on the homestead along the river and had three children: James Alexander (1858-1930), Lucinda Jane (1860-1939) and John Thomas (1864-1924).

Pollock continued to serve as Indian Agent and unverified accounts note that he may have also served as Clark County Assessor. Official records do indicate that he was appointed to serve as interim Justice of the Peace in the Lancaster District in 1860 and many legal documents list Pollock as a witness and /or confidant.

His stature in the community continued to rise as evidenced by his selection to serve as a member of House of Representatives for Clarke County during the 13th and 14th Sessions of the Washington Territorial Legislature (1865-67). While in Olympia he served as chairman of the agricultural committee, presented a report to provide for the organization of a fire department in Vancouver (C.B. 30), and served on the educational committee which wrote some of the first school laws of the territory.

While returning from meeting in Olympia in 1868, Pollock traveled in the dead of night in cold, wet and windy weather. He suffered a bad cold that turned to pneumonia after arriving at home and died at the age of 44 on February 6, 1868. Reportedly Pollock's name had been put forth as a possible candidate for Territorial Governor and he was excited to share the news with his family.

Despite his death, the Pollock name continued to be used as a place name for voting precincts in the LaCenter area up until the late 1880s. His gravesite is located on the edge of his homestead just beyond the south end of the LaCenter Bridge.

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I) Documentation

Xerox and attach any information or evidence that supports the property's significance.

Written Sources (books, articles, newspapers):

The La Center Historical Museum - exhibit that features John Pollock. Included in this display, is John's brief case containing his gold watch and numerous paperwork pertaining to his duties as an Indian Agent, Legislator, Justice of the Peace and Clark County Assessor .

Ancestry.com

Journal of the House of Representative of the Territory of WA - 13 & 14th Session - Olympia, T.F. McElroy, Printer - 1865 & 1867

Washington National Guard Pamplet: The Official History of the Washington National Guard Vol 2: Washington Territorial Militia in the Indian Wars of 1855-1856

Family Records of Washington Pioneers Prior to 1891 Vol XXIX: The Daughters of the American Revolution - 1958

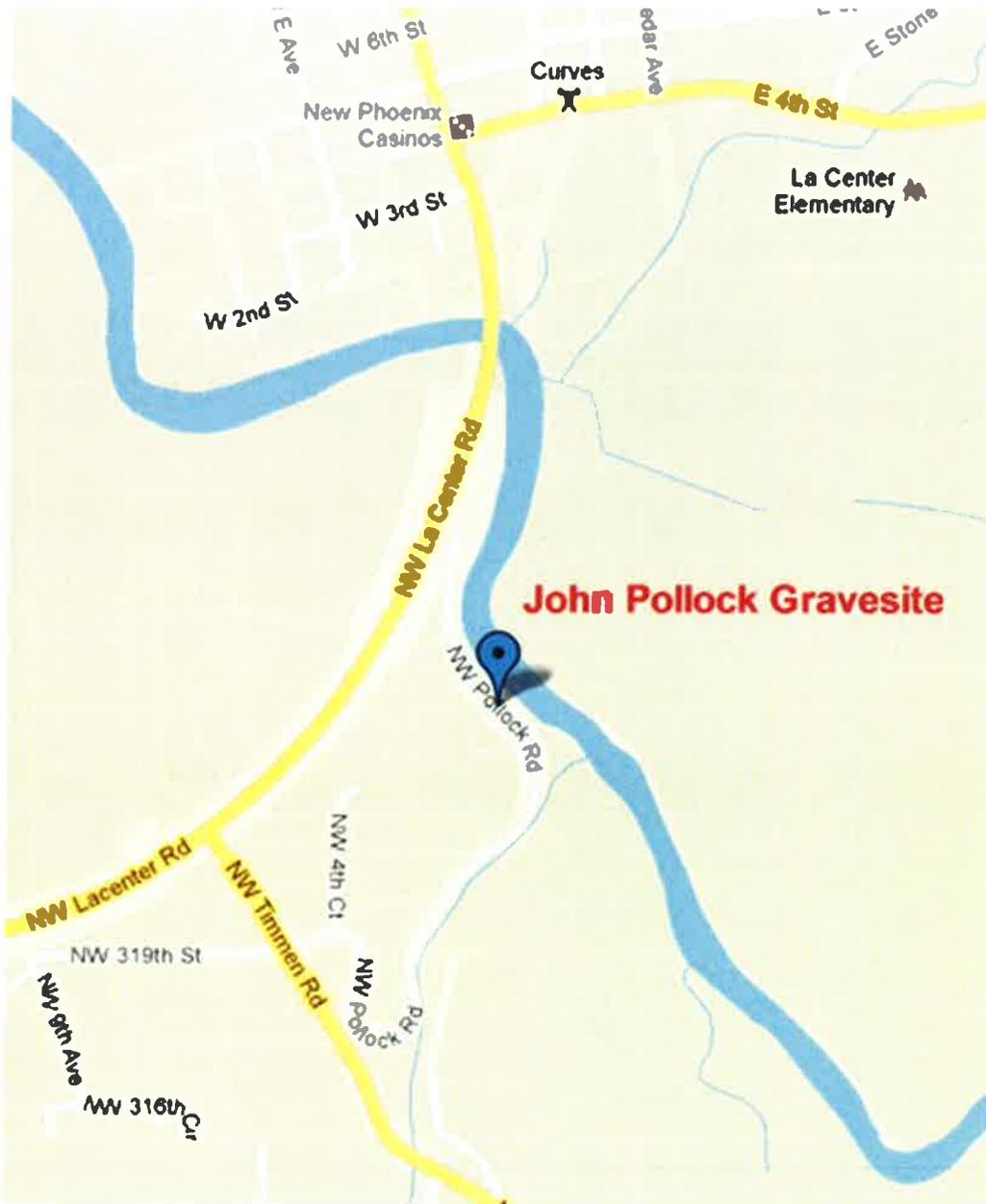
Clarke County Census - 1860

Oral History/Interviews:

Interviews with Doria Ferguson, Granddaughter, and Roberta Emerick, Great Granddaughter.

J) Map and Photographs

Attach copies of historic maps or photos if available, and current photos (5 x 7 B & W). Include a current map – appropriate U.S.G.S. map and parcel map – with the location of the property and its boundaries clearly marked. (see instructions)



Map Sites Find Parcel Search Locate Address Print Map Legal Feedback Legacy MapsOr



XMin: -13656042.103606474 YMin: 5756978.73694724

Note - The road frontage was reduced when it was built in 1923 to accommodate the Grave.

SURVEY

IN THE
S.W. 1/4 S.E. 1/4 AND S.E. 1/4 S.W. 1/4 OF SECTION 3,
T4N., R.1E., W.M.,
CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

- INDICATES IRON ROD SET IN SURVEY IN BOOK 10, PAGE 114 AND BOOK 11, PAGE 7
- INDICATES 1/2" IRON ROD WITH PLASTIC CAP SET

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE
This map correctly represents a survey made by me or under my direction in compliance with the requirements of the Survey Recording Act of the request of

TOM WOOLDRIDGE
N. BERTNER, W. B. Z.
(Signed & Sealed) *[Signature]*
Registered Land Surveyor
Certificate No. 9279



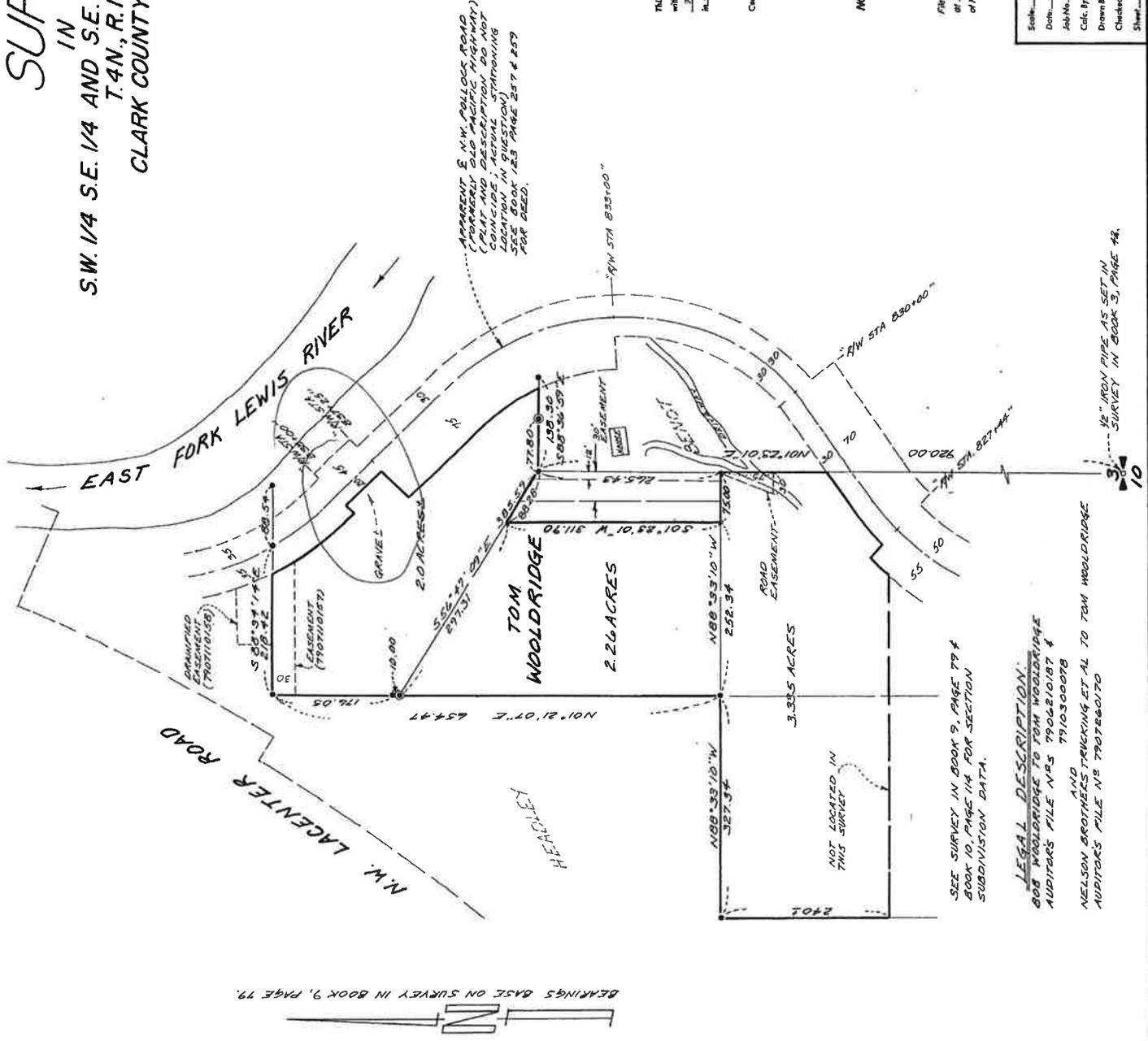
NOTE: Hagedorn, Inc. makes no warranties as to matters of unwritten title such as acquisitions, encroachments, adverse possession, etc.

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE
Filed for record this 9th day of March, 1983
at 1:53 P.M. in book 15 of surveys at page 178 at the request of Hagedorn, Inc.

(Signed) *[Signature]*
Deputy County Auditor

HAGEDORN, INC.
1924 Broadway Vancouver, Wash.
1017 Washington Way Longview, Wash.
PH: (206) 896-4428, Vancouver
(206) 923-1181, Longview
(509) 283-6776, Portland, Or.
LAND SURVEYING & ENGINEERING
A Subsidiary of Hagedorn, Inc.

Scale: 1" = 100'
Date: 11-22-82
Job No. B2-164
Calc. by: CEM
Drawn by: RJP
Checked by: BJA
Sheet 1 of 1



BEARINGS BASED ON SURVEY IN BOOK 9, PAGE 79.

APPARENT E.M.W. POLLOCK ROAD (FORMERLY OLD PACIFIC HIGHWAY) CONCERNING ACTUAL STATIONING LOCATION IN QUESTION SEE BOOK 183 PAGE 257 & 259 FOR DEED.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:
808 WOOLDRIDGE TO TOM WOOLDRIDGE
AUDITOR'S FILE NRS 7902210187 & 7910300078
AND
NELSON BROTHERS TRUCKING ET AL TO TOM WOOLDRIDGE
AUDITOR'S FILE NRS 79026010

NOT LOCATED IN THIS SURVEY

1/2" IRON PIPE AS SET IN SURVEY IN BOOK 3, PAGE 44.



JOHN POLLOCK ~ 1824 - 1868

