

WELL PRESERVED



Erick and Johanna Lindgren Cabin

89990 Hawkins Road, Warrenton, Oregon

WARRENTON — David Rogers, a master log builder from Rhododendron, Oregon, recently held a workshop on log construction at the Erick and Johanna Lindgren cabin. He examined the Cullaby Lake structure with students from Clatsop Community College's Historic Preservation program.

Like other experts before him, Rogers was impressed by the quality of construction and the

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materials used therein. The cabin is a unique example within the county and has deep roots within

the Finnish culture.

Historic significance

The 68-year-old Erik Lindgren and his neighbor, William Merila, constructed the cabin in 1928. It was set near the edge of a meadow on Soapstone Creek, in the hills of the Nehalem Valley. The cabin was built among a cluster of buildings including a sauna, meat smoker and barn.

It was constructed from red

cedar, hand-split into planks, then hewn with scalloped-shaped axes. The logs were joined with full dovetail joints and stacked one on top of another. No nails were needed for the walls, gravity held them in place. Further, the planks were so carefully crafted, there were no gaps between them.

The men felled huge, old-growth timber. One of the cabin's hewn planks is five inches thick and forty-seven inches wide.