

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000529

Date Listed: 6/10/93

Lowell Ranger Station
Property Name

Pima AZ
County State

Depression-Era USDA Forest Service Administrative Complexes in Arizona MPS
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Antonieta H. Lee
Signature of the Keeper

6/10/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Statement of Significance: This property has been evaluated at the statewide level of significance.

This information was confirmed with Michael A. Sullivan, Archeologist with the Tonto National Forest, and Evan I. DeBlois, Federal Preservation Officer, USDA Forest Service.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

RECEIVED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

MAY 12 1993

1. Name of Property NATIONAL REGISTER
 historic name Lowell Ranger Station
 other names/site number _____

2. Location
 street & number N/A /NA/not for publication
 city, town Tucson /XX/vicinity
 state Arizona code AZ county Pima code 019 zip code N/A

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>3</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>3</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing: DEPRESSION-ERA USDA FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEXES IN ARIZONA
 Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Joan D. DeBlasio 5/7/93
 Signature of certifying official Date

USDA - Forest Service

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Jesse J. Hoffman 6-5-92
 Signature of certifying official Date

State Historic Preservation Officer

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Autawalt & Coe 6/10/93
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)

fn Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
<u>GOVERNMENT/government office</u>	<u>GOVERNMENT</u>
<u>DOMESTIC /institutional housing</u>	<u>DOMESTIC/institutional housing</u>

7. Description	
Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Materials enter categories from instructions)
<u>Pueblo</u>	foundation <u>CONCRETE</u>
	walls <u>ADOBE; STUCCO</u>
	roof <u>ASPHALT</u>
	other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Summary

Lowell Ranger Station is located at the south end of the Santa Catalina mountains near Sabino Canyon near Tucson. Lowell Ranger station is a Forest Service administrative site with 3 historic buildings. These buildings, built between 1934 and 1937, include an office building, a residence and a barn/garage. All are considered contributors to the historic district. A hay shed and corral located adjacent to the barn/garage postdate the historic period and are ineligible for the National Register. The nominated property is a good example of a Forest Service administrative site built during the Depression-era. It retains all of its original buildings in their historic setting with few intrusions or modifications. Two of the three buildings are typical of standard plan constructions which illustrate Forest Service site layout and administration during the Depression-era. The barn/garage illustrates the use of unique plans for secondary structures at ranger stations, a common practice during the early 1930s. Lowell Ranger Station retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Setting

Lowell Ranger Station is located at the south end of the Santa Catalina mountains near Sabino Canyon. It is in a low elevation desert environment although the peaks of the Santa Catalina Mountains rise immediately to the north. Tucson's urban sprawl is visible to the southwest. The buildings at Lowell Ranger Station are carefully designed to fit this environment.

Physical Description

The residence is a Pueblo style building built from standard plan A-14. It is stucco-covered adobe brick with a flat roof and decorative parapet. Two porches and a patio are attached. The east porch was originally open and the west porch enclosed. Both have slat ceilings with peeled log beams. The east porch has now been partially enclosed and the original wooden railing has been replaced with pipe. On the south side of the residence, a concrete patio is enclosed by a 30 inch high concrete wall. This area was once a glass enclosed greenhouse, but the glass superstructure has been removed. Two double French doors lead from the south patio into separate bedrooms.

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The Lowell Ranger Station office building is similar in design to the residence. The design is from standard plan B-5, a two-room bungalow type office and quarters building. This is a Pueblo style building of stucco-covered adobe brick with a flat roof and decorative parapet. A bathroom projects from the rear of the structure and an open porch is attached to the front. The porch roof is supported by four square posts and the ceiling is made of thin wooden slats and peeled log beams. Two front doors (wooden with three-over-three glass panes) open from the porch into two separate interior rooms. Windows are six-over-one double hung sash type and are deeply set. There have been no obvious modifications to the exterior of the building. The interior wooden floors were removed when the building was converted from office to storage space.

The Lowell Ranger Station garage/shop is an L-shaped building of unique plan that is similar in style and construction to the residence and office buildings. Like the other two buildings, it is constructed of stucco-covered adobe brick with a flat roof and decorative parapet. Two adjacent wooden double doors in the south wall open into a single garage space, while single wooden doors at the east end of the south wall and in the east wall open into a workshop area and barn/garage. When the building was first built, a wooden overhang was located on the north side of the building at the juncture of the two segments of the "L". At the base of this overhang was a feed trough. A hay window was located above the trough. The only modification to the structure appears to be the removal of the overhang and trough. The hay window has a wooden cover.

The buildings at Lowell Ranger Station are widely spaced. The residence faces east with the office to the southeast and the garage/shop to the northwest. The grounds are heavily vegetated, primarily with natural desert vegetation. An unpaved, rock-lined road leads between the structures, passing the barn/garage, the residence, and circling in front of the office. In the original layout, the main road ran south of the office, so that this was the first building encountered.

Integrity

Lowell Ranger Station has undergone some alterations since its construction. All these changes can be considered to be minor with the exception of those to the residence. The modifications to the residence, while not minor, have not changed the configuration of the building. This configuration continues to convey the feeling of the unmodified structure. There are no buildings or structures that intrude on the setting of the complex. The complex as a whole retains integrity of workmanship, materials, setting, feeling, and association and, therefore, is a good representation of a USDA Forest Service administrative site from the Depression.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE

1934-1942

1934

SOCIAL HISTORY

1937

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

CONSERVATION

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Affiliation

USDA Forest Service, Region 3

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

Lowell Ranger Station is significant under criterion "A" for its association with the expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, it reflects the role of the Forest Service in relieving unemployment during the Depression. It is also significant under criterion "C" as it embodies the use of standard plan architecture developed in the 1930's by Regional Office architects and represents a distinctive Forest Service architectural design style and philosophy. The Period of Significance dates from 1934, when the first of the nominated buildings was constructed, to 1942, corresponding with the end of the Great Depression and the disbanding of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Historic Contexts/Background

Lowell Ranger Station is significant for its association with expansion of Forest Service administration from custodial superintendence to active resource management. Built by Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees it reflects the role of the Forest Service in relieving unemployment during the Depression years. As a group of buildings constructed to standard plans the buildings do reflect the design philosophy and style prevalent in the Forest Service in the 1930s as expressed by Regional Office architects. (See "Depression-Era USDA Forest Service Administrative Complexes in Arizona Multiple Property Form" for additional information.)

Construction of the three buildings at Lowell was begun by enrollees from the nearby Tanque Verde CCC Camp (F-42-A) in March 1934 (Coronado Bulletin 3/2/34). Harrison reports that the office was built first, then the barn/garage and house. She notes that some of the buildings were first occupied in the fall of 1935, although the whole

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complex was not completed until 1937 (1972:51). Because the Tanque Verde CCC camp operated only from November 1933 until May 1934, another camp may have completed work on the buildings.

The Lowell Ranger Station was the main public contact point for the popular Sabino Canyon recreation area until a Visitor's Center was built in the early 1960's. The garage/shop is still used as a barn/garage, workshop and storage facility. Horses are housed in the corrals next to the barn/garage. The corrals are a post-Depression era structure. The residence is currently used as a temporary residence for visitors and volunteers on the Santa Catalina District of the Coronado National Forest. The office is used primarily for storage.

Lowell Ranger Station is located just beyond the northeast edge of Tucson, at the base of the Santa Catalina Mountains. The site layout and setting of the complex remains much the same as when the buildings were first occupied. The structures appear to have been largely unmodified since their construction.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Harrison, Anne E.

1971 The Santa Catalinas: A Description and History. Unpublished manuscript on file, Coronado National Forest, Tucson, Arizona.

USDA Forest Service Withdrawal and Historical files, Coronado National Forest, Tucson, Arizona.

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State hist. preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Coronado National Forest

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2 acres

UTM References

A 12 | 517160 | 3574720
 Zone Easting Northing

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Lowell Ranger Station is a rectangle 430 ft N/S by 200 ft E/W, with the barn/garage at the northeast corner. The area surrounding the complex within the boundary is not considered a

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Boundary Justification

The boundary includes only those buildings which date to the historic period of significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title C. Cameron / P. Spoerl archaeologists

organization USDA Forest Service - Coronado NF date 9/18/89

street & number 300 W. Congress telephone 629-6416

city or town Tucson state AZ zip code 85701

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

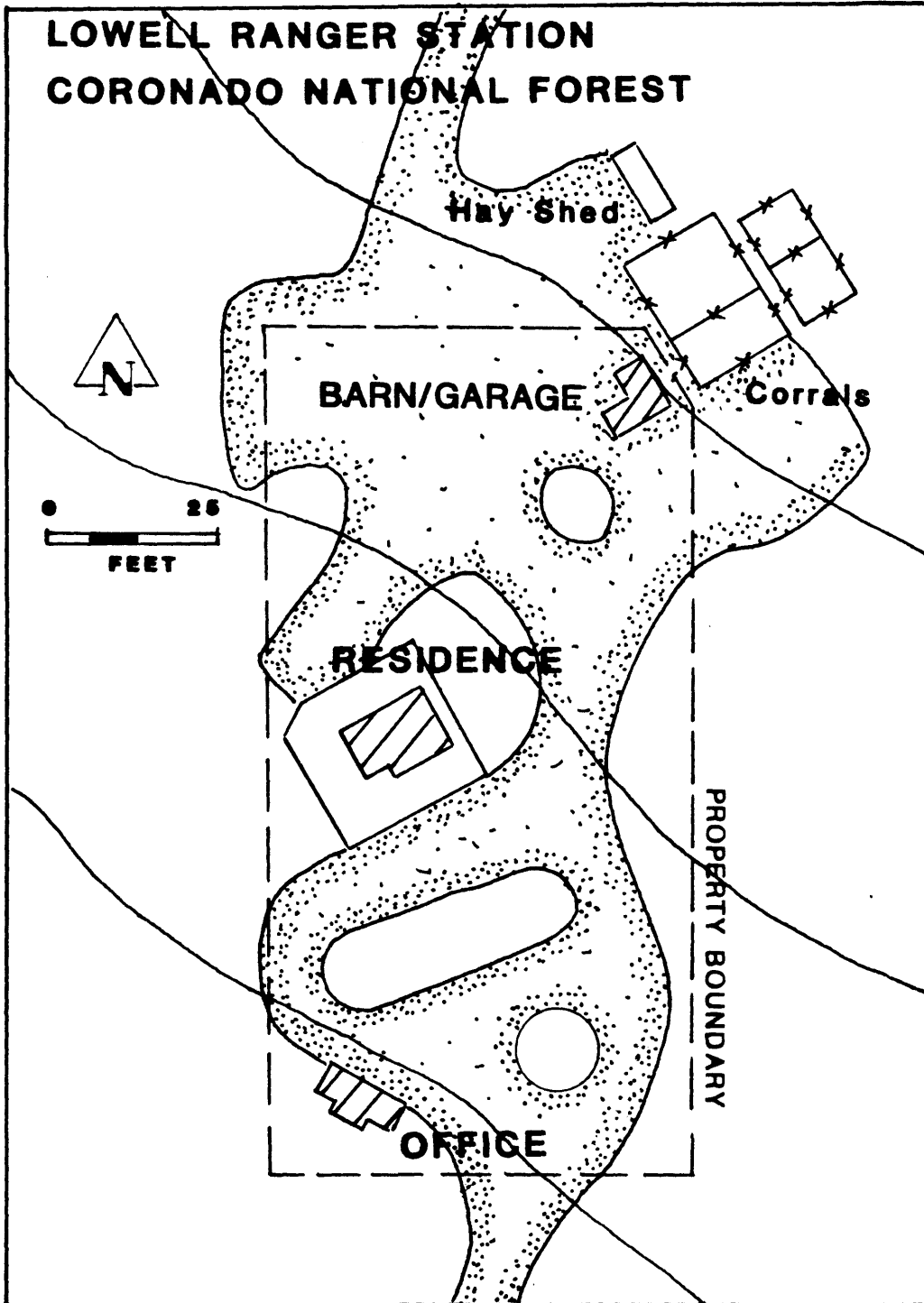
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"buffer area" but is integral to the setting of the property. The boundary of the Lowell Ranger Station is shown as a dashed line on the accompanying sketch map.

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**LOWELL RANGER STATION
CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST**



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Photographs Page 1

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS THE SAME FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS ACCOMPANYING THIS NOMINATION:

- 1) Lowell Ranger Station
- 2) Sabino Canyon, near Tucson, Arizona
- 5) Supervisor's Office, Coronado National Forest, Tucson, Arizona

INFORMATION FOR INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 3) Catherine M. Cameron
- 4) July 1988
- 6) Facing north, showing front of dwelling
- 7) CNF 20

- 3) Unknown
- 4) ca. 1936
- 6) Facing north, showing front of dwelling
- 7) CNF 21

- 3) Catherine M. Cameron
- 4) July 1988
- 6) Facing southwest, showing front of office
- 7) CNF 22

- 3) Catherine M. Cameron
- 4) July 1988
- 6) Facing northwest, showing barn/garage
- 7) CNF 23