

**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: 00000507

Date Listed: 12/29/2000

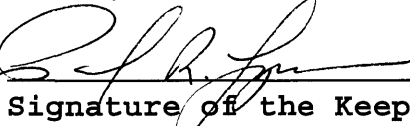
Hershberger Mountain Lookout
Property Name

Douglas
County

OR
State

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures
on the Rogue River National Forest, 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.


Signature of the Keeper

12/29/00
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Resource Category:

The appropriate resource category is: **Building**

Significance:

Architecture is added as an area of significance under Criterion C.

These revisions were confirmed with the U.S. Forest Service.

DISTRIBUTION:

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

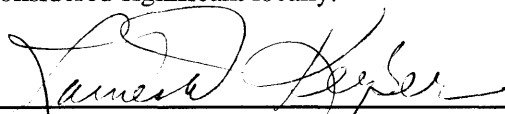
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 3 Page 1

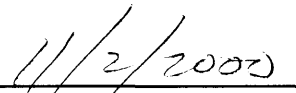
U. S. Forest Service
Historic Structures on the
Rogue River National Forest
MPS

SECTION 3: FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that the nominations listed below meet the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meet the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the properties meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that these properties be considered significant locally.



Signature of certifying official/FPO



Date

Federal Agency and bureau: *U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region*

Administrative

Star Ranger Station Building/"Tack Room" (1911)
Willow Prairie Cabin (1924)
Big Elk Guard Station (1929)

Fire Lookouts

Hershberger Mountain Lookout (1924)
Dutchman Peak Lookout (1927)
Mt. Stella Lookout (1933)
Squaw Peak Lookout (1943)

Snow Survey Cabins

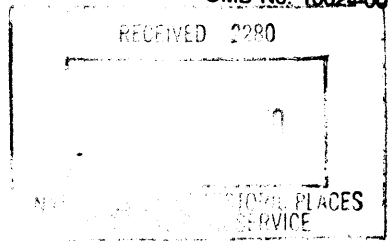
Whaleback Snow-Survey Cabin (1937)
Honeymoon Creek Snow Cabin (1943)

CCC/FERA Recreation Facilities

McKee Bridge Campground (1935-1936)
Wrangle Shelter (1935-36)
Dead Indian Soda Springs Shelter (1936)
Fish Lake Shelter (1936)
Parker Meadows Shelter (1936)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hershberger Mountain Lookout

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Approx. 7 mi. north of Union Creek not for publication
Rogue River National Forest

city or town Prospect vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Douglas code 019 zip code 97536

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jonas Hanish

March 10, 2000

Signature of certifying official/Title/Deputy SHPO _____

Date _____

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. 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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

6/29/2000

Hershberger Mountain Lookout
Name of Property

Douglas Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the
Rogue River National Forest

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: fire lookout

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: fire lookout

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: CONCRETE
walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof WOOD: Shingle

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Please see continuation sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

CONSERVATION

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1925-1943

Significant Dates

1925

1925-1929

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Rogue River National Forest

Hershberger Mountain Lookout

Douglas Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.8 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

UTM grid 1: Zone 110, Easting 544430, Northing 4764480

UTM grid 3: Zone, Easting, Northing

UTM grid 4: Zone, Easting, Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Katherine C. Atwood

organization (for) USDA Forest Service date November 2, 1999

street & number 365 Holly Street telephone (541) 482-8714

city or town Ashland state Oregon zip code 97520

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name USDA Forest Service Rogue River National Forest

street & number P.O. Box 520 telephone 541-858-2200

city or town Medford state Oregon zip code 97501

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Hershberger Mountain Lookout

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

Setting

Hershberger Mountain Lookout is situated on the south point of Hershberger Mountain at approximately 6,200 feet above sea level. It is located in the SE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 22, Township 29 South, Range 3 East, (W.M.) in Douglas County, Oregon. Hershberger Mountain forms one of the highest points of the Rogue-Umpqua Divide that separates the drainage of the Rogue River on the south from that of the Umpqua River on the north. The view from the lookout includes (clockwise from the northeast;) Fish Mountain, Mt. Bailey, Mt. Thielsen, Crater Lake Rim and Mt. Scott, Rabbit Ears, Mt. McLoughlin, Mt. Shasta, the Rogue River Valley, the Rogue-Umpqua Divide, and the South Umpqua drainage to the west.

Hershberger Mountain is composed of andesitic rock of late Tertiary age. Hershberger Mountain summit is composed of an open rock outcrop that contains scattered Shasta red/noble fir, Alaskan yellow cedar, and mountain hemlock. The slopes below the summit are heavily forested with trees of these species, as well as Douglas-fir, sugar pine, and other conifers. The gently sloped terrain at the base of the mountain forms a mosaic of moist meadows, grassy "balds," and dense forest. There is no permanent source of water at the lookout site; drinking water is obtainable at several springs located lower on the mountain's slope to the south and west.

Forest Service roads access the lookout from the Rogue River/Union Creek vicinity. The road ends in a small parking area immediately below the lookout. A metal stairway and a short length of trail lead from the parking area to the lookout structure. Two other structures are located on the site, both of them close to the level of the access road. The first is a small residence (formerly a garage), that was converted during World War II into winter quarters for Aircraft Warning Service spotters. The building has served in the more recent past as shelter for Forest Service radio relay equipment. The second structure is a long-abandoned and severely deteriorated privy.

Structural Description

Built in 1925, Hershberger Mountain Lookout is a standard "D-6" cupola-style lookout structure with a wood frame and a wood-shingled, hipped roof, a kind commonly built by the Forest Service during the 1920s in Oregon and Washington in District [now Region]

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Hershberger Mountain Lookout

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Six. Oriented with its door on the east elevation next to the northeast corner of the building, the two-story lookout is a "ground cabin" with no tower, and rests on a mortared-rock and concrete foundation. As is typical of D-6 cupola lookouts, the building has a square plan measuring approximately 12' by 12' in size. The ground floor formerly served as the living quarters, with stove, table, cupboards, bed, and other furniture. A ceiling-hinged ladder from the lower floor reaches the fire-spotting observatory in the second-story cupola. The cupola held an Osborne fire-finder alidade, much of which remains. The exterior walls of the building are horizontal shiplap siding, painted gray. The roof is surfaced with cut wood shingles. Top-hinged (interior-swing) windows (original) provide lighting and visibility for the interior of the ground floor. The single door is located in the east elevation, adjacent to the northeast corner.

By 1990 Hershberger Mountain Lookout had experienced some replacement of original components and has suffered deterioration to surface materials. Although the building's framework was sound, portions of the foundation were crumbling and the weathered shingle roof needed replacement. Some of the exterior wall siding was cracked, warped, or missing, and moisture had compromised the Celotex interior. Among replacement features were several top-hinged "awning" shutters for the ground-floor window, and horizontal slider windows in the cupola.

In 1991, with a Forest Service grant providing money for materials, and volunteer Forest Service personnel and employing community volunteers, the lookout received careful rehabilitation. Workers re-mortared the foundation, re-shingled the roof with identical size and pattern of cut wood shingles, replaced a small portion of siding with like material, repaired and replaced portions of the interior floor, removed damaged Celotex wallboard and refinished the original double-vee tongue-in-groove paneled wood siding, replacing boards where necessary. Workers constructed new, individual wood shutters for the building. The cupola's modern "slider" windows were replaced with appropriate bottom-hinged, interior-swing windows. The original lightning protective device remained on the structure.

The plank "catwalk" with wooden railing along the east, south, and west sides is an addition. It replaced a two-sided catwalk, built in the 1960s, that enclosed the east and south sides. Research has yet to reveal whether Hershberger Mountain Lookout originally was fitted with a catwalk rail. Present plans call for replacing the three-sided rail with a wooden, porch style catwalk that would enclose only the east side. The metal stairs from the parking area are not original, although they have been in place for many years.

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Civilian Conservation Corps workers probably constructed the former garage in the late 1930s. Similar structures were erected at Mt. Stella, Dutchman Peak, and other lookouts. This garage was converted to residential use in the early 1940s for use as a residence for Air Warning Service personnel stationed at Hershberger Lookout. Measuring approximately 18' x 22' in size, the structure is of frame construction with a pitched, wood-shingled roof with exposed rafters. Wood "double-drop" siding sheaths the building; the former wide door opening has been enclosed, and a single, walk-in door installed. Solar panels have been installed on the structure's roof, and the interior has been substantially modified.

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Significance

Hershberger Mountain Lookout, a D-6 cupola structure built in 1925 and long in use as a fire lookout, is significant for its association with early fire detection on the Rogue River National Forest. Submitted as part of a multiple property submission, "U.S. Forest Service Historic Structures on the Rogue River National Forest, Oregon," Hershberger Mountain Lookout represents the associated historic context, "Fire Suppression on the Rogue River National Forest, 1918-1943." The cupola-style lookout, built from about World War I to the beginning of the Great Depression, is symbolic of the Forest Service's initial attempts at standardization and centralized planning in the field of fire detection. The cupola lookout represents the agency's early fire suppression efforts in the forests of the Pacific Northwest – of the "lonely vigil" of a fire observer stationed on the summit of a remote peak. Hershberger Mountain is also significant for its role in the Aircraft Warning Service (AWS) program, which began fifty-seven years ago, when the lack of radar protection for the Pacific Coast of the United States caused many fire lookouts to double as aircraft warning observation stations until 1944. Although the maximum number of such lookouts built by the Forest Service in Oregon is unknown, there were certainly well over seventy-five such structures. Hershberger Mountain Lookout is one of the last eight remaining D-6 cupola lookouts within Oregon and one of very few remaining within the wider Pacific Northwest and California regions. The resource meets the registration requirements set forth for historic fire lookouts of its type in the registration document. Constructed in 1925, it was established during the historic period, and has retained its integrity of setting, location, design, and materials, and it evokes direct historic associations with its historic context. Hershberger Mountain Lookout embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type as a D-6 cupola lookout through its design and materials.

Hershberger Mountain Lookout, previously declared eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as an important component of early fire protection practices on the Rogue River National Forest also played a role the World War II "home-front" activities of the Aircraft Warning Service. The lookout has additionally been declared eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent representative of the D-6 cupola lookout, a particularly significant style of fire lookout built between 1918 and 1929 from standardized plans and often from prefabricated kits.

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Hershberger Mountain Lookout

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History

Hershberger Mountain Lookout is virtually identical in construction to other cupola lookouts built on the Rogue River National Forest, including those at Mt. McLoughlin, Hall's Point, Dutchman Peak, Rustler Peak, Wagner Butte, and numerous other places in Oregon and Washington during the years between 1918 and 1929. Oregon and Washington formed District [now Region] Six of the Forest Service, hence the label "D-6" was given to this distinctive style of lookout.

In 1916, Crater National Forest examiner Harold D. Foster apparently envisioned a structure similar to the "D-6" cupola lookout when he recommended a small cabin "with a ribbon of glass and fitted perhaps on top of a tower... a house with many windows on the highest point would be far superior to a tent, for the observer could be protected and yet be on the watch... in fact would be on duty every hour of daylight" (Foster 1916:36).

The earliest record of Hershberger Mountain being used as a fire lookout dates to 1922. There was no permanent structure at the site at this time, and the lookoutman most likely resided at a tent-camp in one of the lower elevation meadows to the south. In 1925, fire lookoutman Walter Scott and others erected the present cupola building. The materials were almost certainly from a pre-manufactured lookout kit, especially fashioned for District Six of the Forest Service.

Clyde Onn replaced Scott as the observer at Hershberger Mountain in 1926 or 1927. Mr. Onn had one of the longest lookout careers on the National Forest, spending each fire season at Hershberger Mountain from the late 1920s through World War II. During the war, he and his wife spent the winter of 1942-1943 on the mountain as Aircraft Warning Service observers. Teams of sled-dogs were used to bring groceries and other supplies up to the snow-bound couple. No enemy aircraft were sighted. Recreational visits by the public to Hershberger Mountain began after the Civilian Conservation Corps built improved roads to the Rogue-Umpqua Divide during the 1930s. In 1938 Onn reported sixty visitors in three weekends; two years later the figure was over one-hundred visitors in less than a month – some of them tourists from South Dakota, Michigan, New Jersey, and Washington D.C.

Hershberger Mountain Lookout reported a number of fires during the 1930s and in later years. It remained an active lookout until 1978 and since that time has served as an emergency-use site (e.g. members of a rehabilitation team spotted and "called in" a fire

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from the lookout during one fire season). As during the 1930s to 1960s, the lookout continues to be the destination of numerous motoring and hiking enthusiasts each summer. In 1991 the Forest Service nominated Hershberger Mountain Lookout to the National Historic Lookout Register, a private honorific roll established as a voluntary, nation-wide project of the American Resources Group. The nomination was accepted in July 1991.

Hershberger Mountain Lookout is significant for its associations with the development of the Rogue River National Forest, and specifically with the early period of fire detection on the Forest that occurred between 1918 and 1943. It is additionally significant for its embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of its type as a D-6 cupola style lookout, once widely in use throughout Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

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Hershberger Mountain Lookout

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Bibliography

Foster, Harold D.

1916 The Fire Lookout System on the Crater National Forest, Crater National Forest,
Medford, Oregon.

LaLande, Jeff

1991 Evaluation and Project Description: Hershberger Mountain Lookout (C.R. Job
RR-833), Rogue River National Forest.

LaLande, Jeff

1999 Field Visit to Hershberger Mountain Lookout, August 4, 1999.

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Hershberger Mountain Lookout

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A USGS map of the Fish Mountain quadrangle is included with this nomination. A photocopied section of this map with the site location indicated by an arrow, is also contained within the nomination document.

Boundary Description:

Hershberger Mountain Lookout is situated on National Forest land in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22, Township 29 South, Range 3 East, W.M., in Douglas County, Oregon. The property is further identified on USGS map Fish Mountain Quadrangle, 7.5 minutes series, included with this nomination.

For purposes of this nomination, the property may be further described as a circular parcel measuring approximately 400 feet in diameter, whose outer boundary is determined by measuring approximately 200 feet from the southeast corner of Hershberger Mountain Lookout to encompass the former garage/AWS residence. The acreage of the circle that includes the lookout and associated outbuilding consists of 2.8 acres more or less, at the summit of Hershberger Mountain.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the area of Hershberger Mountain summit immediately encompassing the lookout tower and the former AWS residence incorporated within the 400-foot diameter circle. This area has historically been part of the lookout operation and the boundary forms a discrete, visually identifiable area within which fire detection activities have been the major human activity.

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Photographs

Photograph No. 1

- 1) Hershberger Mountain Lookout
- 2) NW ¼ Section 22, T 29 South, Range 3 East, W.M., Douglas County Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Katherine Atwood
- 4) Date of Photograph August 1999
- 5) Negative holder: Rogue River National Forest
P.O. Box 520
Medford, Oregon 97501
- 6) View of south elevation
- 7) Photograph number 1 of 3

Photograph No. 2

- 1) Hershberger Mountain Lookout
- 2) NW ¼ Section 22, T 29 South, Range 3 East, W.M., Douglas County Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Katherine Atwood
- 4) Date of Photograph August 1999
- 5) Negative holder: Rogue River National Forest
P.O. Box 520
Medford, Oregon 97501
- 6) View of the north and west elevations
- 7) Photograph number 2 of 3

Photograph No. 3

- 1) Hershberger Mountain Lookout
- 2) NW ¼ Section 22, T 29 South, Range 3 East, W.M., Douglas County Oregon
- 3) Photographer: Unknown
- 4) Date of Photograph: 1961
- 5) Negative holder: Rogue River National Forest
P.O. Box 520
Medford, Oregon 97501
- 6) Historic View
- 7) Photograph number 3 of 3

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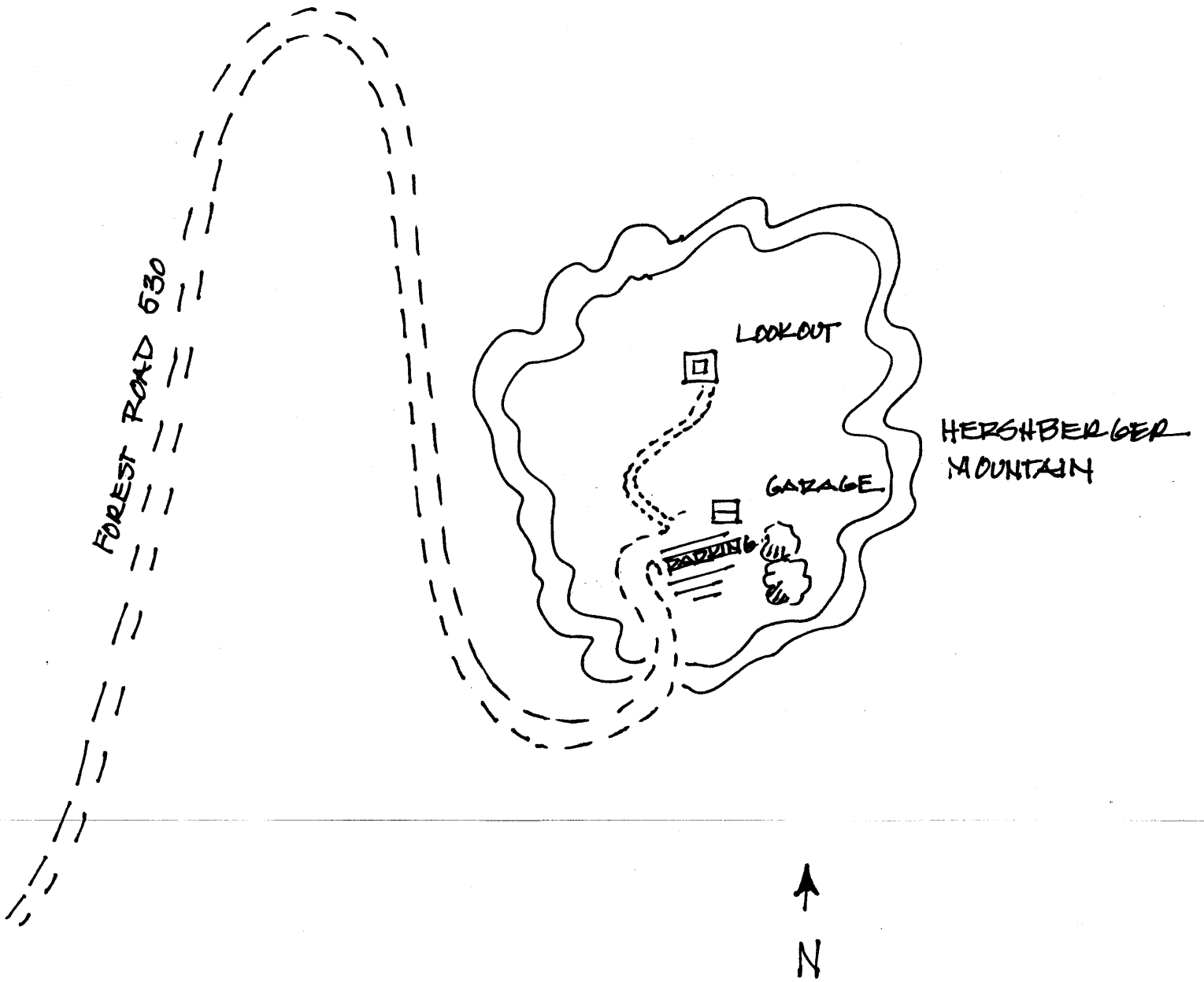
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Property Owner Notification

U.S. Forest Service
J. Michael Lunn, Forest Supervisor
Jeff LaLande, Forest Archaeologist
P.O. Box 520
Medford, Oregon 97501



Hershberger Mountain Lookout

Not to Scale